

Mrs. Clinton expects America to rise to world of new challenges

Says president maintains nation's leadership overseas

By Trude B. Feldman
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Hillary Rodham Clinton says she firmly believes that America will meet the challenges in the post-Cold War era and will continue to play a world leadership role.

"We have new and different issues around the world," she said. "I'm confident that America, as it sorts out these new challenges, will be ready to meet them — just as we did 50 years ago."

In her first interview focusing on foreign affairs, she added: "We've never had quite the situation we're in today. But I think the U.S. has to lead and always has to take responsibility."

Mrs. Clinton just returned from her third trip abroad in less than two months. She accompanied the president to Naples for the annual economic summit of major industrialized democracies and to Berlin, Bonn, Warsaw, and Riga, Latvia.

In May she traveled to South Africa for the presidential inauguration of Nelson Mandela. In June she went with Mr. Clinton to Italy, France and England to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Allied landings at Normandy to liberate Europe from Nazi occupation.

During a 35-minute interview last week in the Map Room of the White House, Mrs. Clinton talked about those visits.

"It was impressive to see so many veterans who had come because they wanted to commemorate their service during World War II," she said. "I was proud of them and proud of America. To me, it was an appropriate time for America to pause and reflect about those critical days and to honor those veterans who saved democracy."

"It was also a perfect time to honor them by thinking about what we in America can do to solve our current problems."



The first lady says real change starts with the heart and mind.

Mrs. Clinton believes that during the past 50 years America has occasionally drifted off course. "As a democracy, that is understandable," she said. "We have many different voices and try to accommodate them. But when the challenge is put before us as a nation, we always meet it, and I think that's what we're doing now."

Did her visit to World War II memorials change her perception of what America's role should be in peacekeeping and dealing with such countries as Haiti, Bosnia, Rwanda and North Korea?

"I really don't have an opinion about that," she said. "These are very difficult matters which the president and military leaders and national security advisers must grapple with."

"Those issues have to be carefully thought through so that the decisions that are made will have the support of all Americans. That's what this president is doing as he helps chart a new course in the world today."

A prime example of that leadership, Mrs. Clinton said, is the inter-

national consensus President Clinton has built in dealing with the nuclear situation in North Korea. She also said former President Carter's goodwill trip to the Korean Peninsula and his talks with Kim Il-sung shortly before the North Korean leader's death helped to defuse tension.

Mrs. Clinton said she was impressed that Mr. Mandela, who spent 27 years in prison before becoming South Africa's first black president, invited three of his former jailers to the inaugural.

"He learned the lesson of what it means to hope," Mrs. Clinton said. "A hopeful heart has no room for bitterness, vengeance or hatred. Nelson Mandela represents the kind of commitment that transcends politics, commitment that springs from the heart and soul. By inviting his jailers, he probably told more about himself and his vision of South Africa than he did in his campaign speeches."

She said Mr. Mandela's gesture reminded her of the essence of her husband's presidential campaign: that real change must start from the inside.

"We have to change our hearts and minds before we can change the conditions we find around us," she said, "and, as we dig deep to recognize our common humanity, to understand, as Nelson Mandela pointed out, there will always be within each of us the forces of darkness waging war against the forces of light."

In her role as America's first lady, Mrs. Clinton said she is "trying to help in any way I can to support the president in solving the problems America is facing today and in reaching out to people to make them feel involved in the life of our country."

"I am trying to give people reasons for hope about our future," Mrs. Clinton said. "I believe that's an important part of making our nation more positive and forward-looking again."

• Trude B. Feldman is an internationally syndicated writer.

October 11, 1993

Dear Mrs. Clinton

In the Hebrew language, each letter of the alphabet has a numerical value. The two letters, CHES and YUD, which add up to 18, also add up to the word CHAI, which means 'LIFE.'

May your 18th wedding anniversary today signify for you a long, a healthful and a happy life together.

And may God bless you and the President with many, many more joyous and successful days and years.

Respectfully,

Trude
Trude Feldman

P.S. For your 1992 anniversary, I hope you'll recall how much I had wanted to write about it. Instead, to mark the date, I ended up by interviewing--for October 11 publication--the Democratic candidate for President. I enclose one version of same.

When my efforts for THIS October 11th were again in vain, I asked you--at Colin Powell's retirement event--if you would prefer that I, too, "retire".

I "got" your "reply" one week later. So, while I want to respect your wishes, I first need to confirm that "decision" with you--and only you.

I met with Walter Annenberg the other day and he told me about the 'Toast' to you. Yet, later "frustrations" would--hopefully--interest you.

I had sent you heartfelt condolences on the loss of your beloved father (from my hospital bed) as well as on your friend, Vincent Foster. I also sent you special greetings on your birthday.

I did not expect any replies to those letters. BUT because of the enormity of the situation today, I would appreciate a reply to THIS one.

P.P.S While I can't now locate all, I enclose a few clips of former First Ladies on their anniversaries, since your remarks on Larry King's Show indicate your interest in them.

Feldman

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The Centers
35th Wedding

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They may have lost the White House, but, on the eve of their 35th wedding anniversary, they still feel they are winners, in love and life.

By Trude Feldman

^{B,} Rosalynn & Jimmy Carter Today



Last July 7th, Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter marked their 34th wedding anniversary, surrounded by advisers planning strategy for re-election to a second term. This year, they will celebrate their 35th anniversary as private citizens in Plains, Georgia. They may have a quiet celebration in their eight-room house on a shaded, secluded street. Perhaps the former president will surprise his wife by cooking dinner for family and close friends. But no matter where or how the milestone is celebrated, Jimmy Carter wants it known that his affection and regard for Rosalynn remains steadfast.

"She is the best thing that ever happened to me. There isn't anyone like her," he told me. "She loves deeply and is deeply loved."

Indeed, the momentous changes in the Carters' lives during the last few years, the triumphs and disappointments, the pain of unexpected defeat and the move from Washington to Plains, seem only to have deepened their love for each other. And they are not hesitant to express that devotion openly.

"They hold hands, hug each other and it makes no difference who is around," says Rosalynn's mother, Mrs. Allie Smith. "Jimmy shows the same concern for Rosalynn today that he did when they first married. It's so good, especially for a mother, to see how much they still care for each other."

If, last January, when Nancy and Ronald Reagan moved into the White House with their staffs, the Carters were dispirited by their loss of home and office, there is no hint of it today.

Talking with Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter in Plains, I found them both in excellent spirits and very much at ease. It is difficult to imagine that only a short time has

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McCall's Magazine
March - 1988



“WE NEVER FACE ANYTHING ALONE”

BY
TRUDE B.
FELDMAN

The President and his “leading lady” talk about their bouts with illness, her mother’s death, the assassination attempt—and the romance that has made every one of their 36 years together “golden”

In one week last October the stock market crashed, the Iraqis attacked a United States-flagged tanker in the Persian Gulf, the Bork nomination to the Supreme Court was defeated and the anticipated Reagan-Gorbachev summit appeared to have been derailed. At the same time, concern about two personal crises gripped America’s First Family—the President’s wife underwent surgery for



cancer and, four days after Nancy Reagan’s return from the hospital, her mother died.

Earlier, on October 5, her physician had informed Mrs. Reagan of a suspicious lesion detected in her left breast following an annual mammogram. Although the news stunned her, her first reaction was a realistic, “What do we do now?”

She listened to doctors explain the nature of such (please turn to page 60)

"WE NEVER FACE ANYTHING ALONE"

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Ronald and Nancy Reagan wave greetings from the South Lawn of the White House. Below, the President talks candidly to reporter Trude Feldman.

The President and his "leading lady" talk about their bouts with illness, her mother's death, the assassination attempt—and the romance that has made every one of their 36 years together "golden"

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"WE NEVER FACE ANYTHING ALONE"

continued from page 59

lesions and the necessary procedures for remedy. They told her that the finding would require a biopsy and that, if the tissue proved malignant, a definitive surgical procedure should be performed to ensure removal of all diseased tissue. Alternative therapies were discussed, such as lumpectomy, radiation and/or chemotherapy, depending on the diagnosis and the stage of the disease process discovered.

"During Mrs. Reagan's ordeal she was brave, methodical and in total possession of her judgment," her doctor said. "She didn't hesitate with her decision, electing to undergo a modified radical mastectomy—removal of all the breast tissue and accompanying lymph nodes in the left axilla."

Mrs. Reagan later told me that doctors recommended that procedure to afford the best chance of removing all cancerous tissue and to avoid the need for radiation.

While both the President and Mrs. Reagan were psychologically prepared for her operation, nothing in the 36 years of their marriage had affected the President so deeply. "Even when something is bothering him, he usually puts on a cheerful face," said one close associate. "But it was obvious that Nancy's illness was really troubling him."

It was Mrs. Reagan's first serious medical problem. The last time she was hospitalized was for childbirth, almost 30 years ago. But she didn't alter her immediate schedule. On the morning of her hospitalization, she flew to New Hampshire to participate in its Foster Grandparents Conference.

The President wanted to be with Nancy before her operation. He was scheduled to take the short helicopter ride from the White House to Bethesda Naval Hospital, but foggy weather forced him to go by car, which would have made him late. He called doctors with a plea: "Please don't start before I see Nancy." When he arrived, he found her on the gurney ready to be wheeled into the operating room, and they were able to share four minutes together.

She was hospitalized for six nights and five days, and the President visited her daily. The day before she was released, he noted to reporters that the stock market had closed up 186 and some fraction, and some 450 million shares had been traded. "But," he added, "today's news—equally important to me personally—is that tomorrow I'll bring Nancy home from the hospital." The next night he opened his first White

House press conference in seven months—not with a reference to the stock-market crash or to the war in the Persian Gulf, or even the Gorbachev summit, but by announcing: "It sure is good news to have Nancy back home."

Dealing with cancer is not a new experience for the Reagans. Upon learning of her own affliction, Nancy said, "I guess it's my turn," referring to the President's repeated bouts with the disease—he has been operated on for skin and colon cancer four times in the last three years. Through all his hospitalizations and recuperations, Nancy had nursed him with "T.L.C."—tender loving care. Now it was the President's turn to take care of her, and he gave her an abundance of that T.L.C.

Asked how he had helped her cope during her surgery and mourning for her mother, the President told me: "I did everything I could to reassure her when she was ill and to assuage her grief at the loss of her mother. I felt I was the one who had to tell her, and it was difficult to

"Without my husband's presence," Mrs. Reagan says, "those days would have been impossible"

find the right words. I told her that her mother would never really be gone from us. She had thought of me as a son. In fact, after I got to know her, I couldn't tell a mother-in-law joke."

He said that, while he and Nancy were able to take in stride her medical problem, her mother's death was "something that tried our souls because we loved her so much."

Mrs. Reagan described her surgery and her mother's death as "a double whammy" and said, "Without my husband's presence, those days would have been impossible. His comforting arms, his warmth and encouragement were a tremendous help."

While Mrs. Reagan was in the hospital, a concert featuring the music of Jerome Kern was held at the White House. After the President thanked the artists and apologized for Nancy's absence, he added, "She would have loved this romantic music." [Her favorite love song is Gershwin's "Our Love Is Here to Stay," and one of the President's is "Sweetheart."]

At the recent State Dinner for Israeli president Chaim Herzog, Metropolitan Opera diva Roberta Peters dedicated "Sweetheart" to Nancy—for her enduring courage. "As I sang to Mrs. Reagan

from the stage, I saw the President grasp her hand, and they looked adoringly at each other," Miss Peters said.

Another dinner guest was actress June Allyson, a close friend of the Reagans, who said "it was a delight to listen to Ronnie . . . It reminded me of the old days in Hollywood when we used to sit around and chat. I couldn't help thinking how Richard [her late husband, Dick Powell] had once predicted Ronald Reagan would someday be President of the United States."

In an interview at Washington's Park Hyatt Hotel, Allyson, now married to Dr. David Ashrow, described the Reagans as "the warmest people I know, who in all the years haven't changed—even in the White House." She recalled the times when she and Dick Powell double-dated with Nancy Davis and Ronald Reagan: "I remember telling Nancy, 'You have to marry Ronnie because he is just as wonderful as Richard.' She answered, 'I agree, but I think it's polite to wait until I'm asked.' From her sheepish smile, I suspect that she already knew he might ask her."

He did ask Nancy, after 11 months of courtship, and they were married on March 4, 1952.

Asked how their love manifests itself, she says, "To me, love means sharing and wanting to give of yourself and your life to another person. I knew I was in love when I became more concerned about Ronnie than about myself."

The President says: "Nancy has enhanced my life just by being a part of it. Philip Barry wrote a play, *You and I*. A character in the play spoke those words in explaining marriage, and said, 'You and I and the you comes first every time.' That's true for Nancy and me."

Their mutual devotion has never been so severely tested as during the Iran-contra affair that has engulfed the White House and damaged the Reagan presidency. When I asked the President how Nancy is helping him cope with this international crisis, he said, "She has made it so natural for us to be as one that we never face anything alone. It's always *our* problem—to be dealt with as something affecting the two of us. Nancy sees this problem as something that happened to us together."

Neither one will ever forget the traumatic day seven years ago when the President was shot. On his way to the operating room, he had the presence to quip to Nancy, "Honey, I forgot to duck." Since then, every time he leaves the White House without her, she watches his departure and return from the balcony of the South Portico. "Whenever Ronnie leaves," she says, "my heart seems to stop until he returns."

Despite the seriousness of his injury—a bullet through his left chest and

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"WE NEVER FACE ANYTHING ALONE"

continued

lung—both the corrective surgery and his recovery were rapid. Yet, in Bob Woodward's book *Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA—1981-1987*, it is purported that the President's recovery was less than optimal and that, after he was released from the hospital, he had periods of incoherence and weakness and required oxygen to sustain his life.

Mrs. Reagan told me: "My husband was never disoriented, he never collapsed in the Yellow Oval Room and he never required oxygen once he left the hospital—twelve days after he was wounded. In a letter to *Newsweek*, Dr. Daniel Ruge [the President's former physician] corrected that false report when it surfaced, and my husband's excellent recovery is on record at the hospital."

In the past 36 years, countless people the world over have been in and out of Ronald Reagan's life, but Nancy has been the one constant—his anchor, his compass and his sail, and he is the first to salute her. "She moved into my heart and replaced an emptiness I had been trying to ignore for a long time," the

President told me. "She turned away from a promising career in films because she believed that being a wife was a full-time career." (At the time of her marriage, Nancy Davis had eight films to her credit. After marriage, she made three more—one of them, *Hellcats of the Navy*, with her husband in 1956.)

He recalled that he hadn't met her before their first date. "It was a kind of blind date," he said. "In case things didn't click, I told her on the phone that I had an early call on the set the next morning, so that evening's date would have to be short. She told me the same about herself."

As the evening wore on, he said, they forgot about the early calls and stayed out late listening to Sophie Tucker in a nightclub. "And since that date, thirty-seven years ago, Nancy has been the leading lady of my heart," he said. Mrs. Reagan puts it this way: "Since then, each year has been a golden one."

Ronald Reagan's welfare has always been his wife's top priority. No matter what the issue, her concern is how it will affect him personally and politically. They engage in a daily exercise regimen in a well-equipped gym in the Residence. The President dutifully completes an exercise routine involving all his major muscle groups and walks strenuously on

a treadmill to elevate his pulse rate for a prescribed period of time. Mrs. Reagan—to compensate for the immobility following her surgery—continues to accentuate the range of motion and strength-gaining exercises for both shoulders.

"These exercises are helping," she says. "They are also a good emotional release from the daily pressures."

Last year controversy swirled around Mrs. Reagan for allegedly interfering with presidential personnel matters and scheduling. Critics argued about how much influence she or any first lady should exert in a president's life.

Defending her role in an address at the Newspaper Publishers convention, she said: "I'm a woman who loves her husband, and I make no apologies for looking out for his personal and political welfare. We have a genuine, sharing marriage. I go to his aid, he comes to mine. I have opinions; he has opinions. We don't always agree. But neither marriage nor politics denies a spouse the right to hold an opinion or to express it. And if you have anything less, it's not marriage."

Reflecting on his life with Nancy, the President told me: "Whatever I like doing I like better if Nancy is a part of it. All the jokes about a husband trying to get out of the house to go bowling or whatever else go right over my head. Nancy is my partner, my friend, my wife—everything a woman should be in a man's life."

"I hope I haven't made her sound like a non-person awaiting my beck and call, because she is a person with individual interests and activities."

And she pursues those interests with vigor. The President involves her in his activities and she has engaged him in hers. She was the catalyst to make drug-and-alcohol abuse one of his priorities, and she herself has traveled the world over to engender awareness of the dangers of that abuse.

On the White House tennis courts, she hosts an annual "Nancy Reagan Tennis Benefit," where corporate sponsors and members of the "Just Say No" clubs are invited to watch celebrities play tennis with public officials. From the past three benefits she has raised over \$1½ million.

In each Gallup Poll for the past seven years, the public has voted Nancy Reagan one of the "Ten Most Admired Women" in the world. Perhaps even more meaningful to her is the sentiment her husband expressed in response to my question: Is there anything about your wife of 36 years that you'd like to change?

"Well, Nancy worries when she thinks something might upset me or might go wrong," the President concluded, with a smile. "If she would only realize that nothing important can go wrong as long as I have her."

1991
Oct 17-1990

Sexual Harassment Flourishes in Secrecy

To the Editor:

I am a psychotherapist who sees and hears the human suffering resulting from abuse on a daily basis, and I am delighted to see the issue of sexual harassment explode into awareness on national television. The message of this whole process is that at last there will be serious consequences for sexual harassment. This is an extremely prevalent form of abuse in this country.

Abuse is the misuse of power whereby someone who is "one up" intimidates, threatens, controls, teases, humiliates, puts down or otherwise uses that position of power to get his or her own needs met at the expense of the person who is "one down," the one with less power.

Abuse, whether sexual, physical or emotional, thrives in secrecy, because there is no consequence to the abuser, and the victim, afraid of retribution, enables the behavior to continue by keeping the secret. Abuse stops only when there are consequences to the abuser, consequences like having the truth spoken out loud.

So tell your secrets, women; tell your secrets, children; tell your secrets, males and females alike who have been victims of abuse; talk about it; break the rules of secrecy that have allowed abuse to flourish for generations. Discard the legacy of silence and shame, and place the shame squarely where it belongs — on the abuser. That alone will insure that it stops.

PAMELA MONDAY
Austin, Tex., Oct. 12, 1991

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge or return unpublished letters. Those selected for publication may be shortened for space reasons.

What to Do With D.C.

To the Editor:

"Free the Government's Plantation" (editorial, Oct. 6), on a bill pending in Congress that would admit Washington, D.C., to the Union as New Columbia, the 51st state, overlooks a solution that does not require amending the Constitution and has historical precedent on its side. Congress need only draft a bill that returns all of the District of Columbia except for the Federal properties to Maryland. Congress ceded the areas now known as Arlington and Alexandria back to Virginia almost 150 years ago.

The Maryland Congressional delegation would gain a seat; the District would gain full control over local affairs; constitutional questions would be avoided, and we would not have as precedent the establishment of a city-state, especially one that could not possibly support itself.

This solution is not given any consideration because there is no political gain in it. The Democrats prefer the statehood plan. They know it will never fly in 38 of the state legislatures, but they can rest knowing again they've done something to help keep the black vote in their party. Or so they think.

DUANE E. LAMERS
Detroit, Oct. 7, 1991

Saudi Insult at U.N. Confirms Israeli Fears

To the Editor:

One year after America's grand coalition with Saudi Arabia and other Arab states, several months after Saudi Arabia's agreement to attend a face-to-face conference with Israel, and one week after President Bush's landmark speech to the United Nations calling for peace in the Middle East and repudiation of the infamous Zionism-is-racism resolution, this astonishing event took place.

Foreign Minister David Levy of Israel addressed the 46th U.N. General Assembly on Oct. 2, and you reported that the President of the Assembly, Samir Shehawi, the first Saudi official to hold a senior U.N. post, "left the podium before the Israeli delegate spoke" (news story, Oct. 3).

Is this a matter of no consequence, like a previous debate elsewhere on the shape of a conference table? I dare say that the symbolism involved here is crucial and makes a mockery of Saudi protestations on behalf of peace. As a national representative, Mr. Shehawi had the right to absent himself at any time. As the General Assembly President, Mr. Shehawi had the obligation to attend and even to provide formal welcome — not to smile, not to applaud, but to do his duty as a U.N. official.

To have done otherwise sends a signal to Israel and the world that old venoms persist, that motives are suspect and intentions dishonorable. Could we blame the Israelis if with this insulting sign, unchallenged by the U.N., they continue to suspect that a peace conference is a fatal trap? Israel must surely feel that one of its great prophets viewed the world correctly when he railed against the hypocrites who proclaim "Peace, peace; when there is no peace" (VI Jeremiah 14).

LEC HABER

Brooklyn, Oct. 4, 1991



The New York Times Company

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Getting real about dangers of drug use

O No wonder kids scoff at the motto: "Just Say No To Drugs." They know a phony, vacuous statement when they hear one.

Surely we know by now that with teenagers it's not that simple. The fact that drugs hurt you — fry your brain — kill you — are empty arguments to most teenagers, as they were to me at that cavalier age. When you are young, you are absolutely sure that you will live forever, no matter what.

Admittedly, the egg-frying-in-the-skillet advertisement against drugs is pretty powerful (as the egg sizzles in the pan, the speaker says: "This is your brain on drugs"). But most young people probably regard that as someone else's egg-brain, not their own.

So why do we keep trying to appeal to our kids' non-existent sense of mortality? Why don't we give our kids a good reason not to use drugs? A reason that appeals to their sense of ethic (which, I think, young people have a lot more than we give them credit for). Let's give them a moral imperative.

Todd Smith, for example, is a good reason not to use drugs. Smith, a *Tampa Tribune* reporter, was viciously murdered in November in Peru, reportedly by cocaine traffickers who paid guerrillas \$30,000 to deliver the young man to them.

The President of the United States is a good reason not to use drugs. Last month Colombian drug cartels threatened to assassinate President Bush, according to a *Newsweek* report. (How dare he try to stop them from raking in another billion dollars!)

Manuel Noriega is a good reason not to use drugs. Here's a chilling thought: Imagine standing in a busy school corridor handing a \$50 bill not to some neighborhood drug pusher but directly into the hands of Noriega.

If those aren't good enough reasons, how about all the public officials, judges and other journalists that these murderers have slaughtered because they tried, or said they would try to interfere with business — the almighty drug business.

For the past 10 years, contract killers for the Medellin cartel have murdered about 1,000 people — including two cabinet ministers and 12 Colombian Supreme Court justices, a newspaper editor, about two dozen journalists and more than 50 judges.

People who deal in drugs have given new meaning to the term "filthy rich."

From now on, I am going to tell my teenagers and any other young people who will listen that I have



Courtesy
and over the years they have
ice of stability and religious faith



Courtesy of Scott Pierce

and over the years they have
ice of stability and religious faith.

PUTTING FAMILY FIRST

After 45 years, George and
Barbara Bush say that — still
— their love is genuine

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN

Barbara and George Bush are celebrating their 45th wedding anniversary today. Their years as a couple have spanned a major period of American and world history — with Bush himself often a key participant. Yet they have been successful in making sure that the turmoil and pressures stopped at the threshold of their home.

Over the years the Bushes have always shared the same views on their family life and the importance of its stability, as well as their religious faith.

Their relationship illustrates the axiom that love is not just looking into one another's eyes but looking in the same direction.

Sitting in the Oval Office and reminiscing, President Bush describes his first meeting with Barbara Pierce — 48 years ago.

"I first met her at Christmastime, just after Pearl Harbor was attacked. The United States was at war, so I guess you might call ours a wartime romance. To me, to this very day, it has been a classic love story."

Seventeen-year-old George Bush was at a Christmas dance at the Greenwich Country Club in Greenwich, Conn., where he grew up. (His father, Prescott, was a U.S. senator from Connecticut from 1952 to 1962.)

When he first saw 16-year-old Barbara Pierce he summoned the courage to ask a mutual friend for an introduction. "She was wearing a red and green dress, all Christmasy, and she was beautiful," the president said. "That and her friendly smile were what first attracted me."

He asked her for the next dance. But when the band be-



New York Times Syndication

Barbara and George Bush today

■ Trude B. Feldman is a White House correspondent who has known and covered the president for the past 23 years. ■

Marriage from 1D

gan to play a waltz he told her he didn't know how to waltz, so they sat out that dance and began to talk. They chatted through the next three dances. "We found we had a lot in common, even our senses of humor," he recalls. "I wanted to see her again."

He did see her again — "a night or two later" — at another Christmas dance, this one in nearby Rye, N.Y., Barbara's hometown. "We both went back to school, but during spring vacation we saw each other quite a bit," Bush says. "Then I took her to my senior prom at Andover."

Bush graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., on June 4, 1942, and eight days later, on his 18th birthday, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a seaman second class.

Barbara Bush recalls that George was not only extremely handsome, but also very pleasant. "It wasn't love at first sight," she said, "but we enjoyed each other's company from the start."

Even though she had other boyfriends, she admits that George was the first boy she ever kissed.

Their romance turned serious less than one year after they met. And in August 1943, while she was visiting the Bush family in Kennebunkport, Maine, she and George became engaged.

She soon endeared herself to his family with her spunky personality and lack of pretense.

"I still recall when George first told us he had met the niftiest girl," says his mother, Dorothy Walker Bush. "Barbara was outgoing and lots of fun."

She adds that even though Barbara and George were "quite young" when they wanted to get married, she and George's father thought they were "sensible people" who were well-suited to each other.

Nonetheless, Barbara Bush believes that had it not been for the war neither her family nor George's "would have considered" their marrying so young.

"The timing of our wedding," she says, "was set off by the war."

A family wedding

Bush had earned his wings in June 1943, when he became the youngest pilot commissioned by the Navy. In September 1944 his plane, with the name "Barbara" painted on it, was shot down in the Pacific, but he was rescued, and by Christmas Eve was home on leave. Five days later he was best man at the wedding of his older brother, Prescott, to Elizabeth "Beth" Kauffman.

"George brought Barbara to our wedding," Beth Bush says. "She was lovely looking, with big eyes that seemed to grow larger whenever she looked at George. . . . It was as if she couldn't believe he was home after all the dangers he had been through."

A week later, on Jan. 6, 1945, Prescott was best man as George and Barbara were married in her family church in Rye.

"At her wedding Barbara looked radiant and was full of enthusiasm about their future together," Prescott says. "And today, while I'm proud of what George has accomplished, in speaking of his success I always include Barbara, because she had a tremendous amount to do with my brother's achievements."

In 1945, a man under 21 years old had to have parental consent to marry; a woman over 18 did not. Beth Bush says that 19½-year-old Barbara was "really tickled" that her 20½-year-old fiance — a war hero with a Distinguished Flying Cross — needed his parents' permission to marry and she did not.

The bride and groom honeymooned at The Cloister in Sea Island, Ga. The resort recently gave a party for its 32,000th honeymoon couple. From the White House Barbara Bush wrote the social director that she and the president couldn't attend the event, but were "pleased and amused to learn we were couple 1,768."

A lifetime of sharing

Barbara Bush believes that one of the reasons her marriage has worked so well is that she is not possessive of her husband.

"Sharing our lives has been most important," she says. "George is thoughtful and has been good about including me in almost everything he does, and that makes all the difference."

They have shared the good times and the bad. And in times of stress they are a comfort to each other.

"George and I have grown together," she says. "We're part of each other's lives, and he has always made me feel loved."

She relates that when something irritates them, they are direct and honest with each other. "You know, we don't have spats. Isn't that awful?" she asks in mock disbelief. "I can't recall having a real fight with him." The president says, "We seldom argue, and when we do it's over in a hurry."

How does their love manifest itself? "In lots of personal ways and quietly," Bush says. "There is no need for us to shore each other up — we have a confident relationship. We kid each other, we worry about the children and grandchildren, we care about the dog — we're happy just doing things we like — together."

He describes their special affection for Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland — its serenity and scenic beauty. "Being there together," he says, "even if we're doing different things . . . just sharing our lives — that makes for a happy marriage, and that's what our love is all about."

Last Jan. 6, during preparations for Bush's inauguration, he



Times files

President Bush, daughter Doro Leblond, and first lady Barbara Bush watch long-time family employee Paula Rendon prepare Thanksgiving pies at Camp David last year.

and Barbara were packing for the move to the White House. In all the excitement the president-elect was able to surprise her on their anniversary "by quietly inviting people on one day's notice" for dinner and theater.

Will today's 45th anniversary — their first in the White House — be extra special?

"We aren't sentimental," he says, "and our love is a personal thing. But, yes, there is a certain special quality to this milestone. And, since you're writing this feature, I've made an exception here to tell you what Barbara has meant to me. She has truly meant everything."

Concern for others

President Bush acknowledges that he has had disappointments in life, in politics, even in the Oval Office — "but none that have shaken our marriage."

In 1964 and 1970 he lost bids for a U.S. Senate seat from Texas. In mid-1988 polls showed he might lose the presidential election.

"He just worked harder," Barbara Bush says. "He has grace under pressure and is easy to live with because of his even-keeled disposition."

A 30-year friend of the couple, Secretary of Commerce Robert A. Mosbacher, notes that their marriage is the kind everyone strives for and not many achieve.

"They have a special relationship that few couples enjoy," he says. "It's rare and beautiful. They're completely comfortable with one another. And because they are caring people, that attitude of caring extends itself to their friends."

George and Barbara Bush "take their responsibilities seriously but are not impressed with themselves," says the president's cousin, Judge John M. Walker Jr. "When they entertain guests — whether family or ambassadors or officials from foreign countries, they do so in their private quarters as well as in the formal rooms of the White House. This informality puts everyone at ease."

"Long before they moved to the White House, I had seen them show concern for each person they met. It's the same today, whether it's a head of state or a stranger taking a White House tour."

Jim Pierce, Barbara's older brother, agrees. "The White House, with its ceremony and trappings is heady, but my sister and brother-in-law do a good job keeping things in perspective. Their naturalness as a couple is still impressive. In a materialistic world, that stands out."

His wife, Margie, concurs: "That naturalness, under the circumstances, is astounding, and people respond positively to their down-to-earth manner."

One tragic loss

The Bushes have five children and 11 grandchildren. Over the years, while George and Barbara had different roles in child-raising, they agreed on how their children should be brought up.

"If one of our kids needed special care or had to be dusted off and put back in the game," the president recalls, "we both sensed it at the same time. If one of them hurt, Barbara and I hurt, too — in the same way."

Their one real sadness was the death of their first daughter, Robin, of leukemia in 1953, before she was 4 years old.

Barbara says that she and George will always cherish their memories of Robin. "I don't think about her with sadness anymore. I think about her with affection," she says. "I used to dwell on that, sort of morbidly, especially when her birthday (Dec. 20) approached, or on Oct. 11, the anniversary of the day she died."

The president says, "We were heartbroken. We tried to find comfort in God and to accept and learn from our sorrow. You know, the death of a child can be a family-maker or breaker. As we shared our loss, Barbara and I grew stronger."

'Perfect for each other'

If he could have the last 45 years to live over, George Bush says he wouldn't do anything differently — "except I wish the child we lost could have stayed with us. But in terms of the rest of our lives, I wouldn't want to change a thing. We've been blessed."

The president's mother, now 88, says: "I watched George and Barbara mature together and always felt she was the right person for him. When I met her 48 years ago I felt they'd be perfect for each other. I feel the same way today."

"I only hope all George's presidential decisions are as wise as the decision he made 45 years ago when he chose Barbara as his wife."

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Distributed by Special Features

New York Times Syndication

Trude B. Feldman is a Washington writer who has covered George Bush for more than 20 years.



On the campaign trail in 1988, Bush walks with his mother, Dorothy Walker Bush, in West Hartford, Conn.



Bush and father, former Sen. Prescott Bush, during George's bid for Senate seat in 1964.

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One real sadness

Has living in the White House changed Barbara and George Bush?

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keeping things in perspective. Their naturalness as a couple is still impressive. In a materialistic world, that stands out."

Janice Pierce, wife of Barbara's younger brother Scott, notes: "Their family has been the center of their lives. Since they've been married Barbara's priorities have remained the same: her husband, her children, her children's children and volunteerism."

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The president's older brother Prescott maintains that George and Barbara have always seen the bright side of life.

Looking back, the president's mother, Dorothy Walker Bush, reflects: "I watched George and Barbara mature together and always felt she was the right person for him. When I met her 48 years ago I felt they'd be perfect for each other. I feel the same way today."

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'Love at second sight'

George and Barbara Bush talk about their 45 years of marriage

Trude B. Feldman, a Washington writer who has known and covered President Bush for the past 23 years, reports on how the president and his wife have made their marriage such a resounding success. In the first of two parts, based on interviews with the president, his mother and other members of his family, Bush recalls the first time he met Barbara Pierce 48 years ago. His wife remembers that although it "wasn't love at first sight, we enjoyed each other's company right from the start."

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
NEW YORK TIMES SYNDICATE

SITTING in the Oval Office and reminiscing, President George Bush describes his first meeting with Barbara Pierce — 48 years ago.

"I first met her at Christmas-time, just after Pearl Harbor was attacked. The United States was at war, so I guess you might call ours a wartime romance. To me, to this very day, it has been a classic love story."

Today, Barbara and George Bush will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary. Their years as a couple have

spanned a major period of American and world history — with Bush himself often a key participant. Yet they have been successful in making sure that the turmoil and the pressures stopped at the threshold of their home.

Over the years the Bushes have always shared the same outlook on their family life and the importance of its stability, as well as their religious faith.

Their relationship illustrates the axiom that love is not just looking into one another's eyes, but looking in the same direction.

□ □
Seventeen-year-old George Bush

was at a Christmas dance at the Greenwich Country Club in Greenwich, Conn., where he grew up. (His father Prescott was a U.S. senator from Connecticut from 1952 to 1962.)

When he first saw 16-year-old Barbara he summoned the courage to ask a mutual friend for an introduction. "She was wearing a red and green dress, all Christmasy, and she was beautiful," the president said. "That and her friendly smile were what first attracted me."

PLEASE SEE **BUSHES/2**



BOB FLAGG: Wrong soil is probably to blame for magnolia's yellow leaves — E-6

The Houston Post

SATURDAY, January 6, 1990

STYLE

E



Ken
Hoffman

McCartney gives CBS '48 Hours'

BEATLE FANS VCR alert: CBS' *48 Hours* is preparing a 90-minute, in-depth portrait of Paul McCartney for Jan. 25. The special includes plenty of concert footage, backstage stuff and a startling McCartney interview.

"Paul is extremely honest about John Lennon. And he comes to grips with being a former Beatle. He wants to set the record straight, that the Beatles were as much *his* band as John Lennon's. You'll hear him say, 'People think the Beatles were John Lennon and three other jerks.' That is one reason so much of Paul's concert consists of old Beatles songs." said 48

45 YEARS TOGETHER



Eric
Gerber
Television

Will new PBS wash 'n' wear for viewers?

LOS ANGELES — What's this sound like?
Brighter! Fresher! New and improved!

A commercial for the latest laundry detergent?

How about *More wit, more humor, more fun!*

Jay Leno's new comedy special?

How about PBS?

That's right. The stately gray lady of TV may be getting a face lift. And line

Barbara Pierce, 19, and George Bush, 20, were married in Rye, N.Y., on Jan. 8, 1945.

Barbara and George celebrate anniversary of classic love story

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
SPECIAL TO THE POST

BARBARA AND George Bush celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary today. Their years as a couple have spanned a major period of American and world history — with Bush himself often a key participant. Yet they have been successful in making sure that the turmoil and the pressures stopped at the threshold of their home.

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Seventeen-year-old Bush was at

Please see BUSHES, E-2



For President and Mrs. Bush, it was "love at second sight."

A blend of friendship and intimacy

Trude B. Feldman, a Washington writer who has known and covered President Bush for the past 23 years, reports on how the president and his wife have made their marriage such a success. In the second of two parts, based on interviews with the president, his mother and other members of his family, Feldman asks Bush if he would run for president against his wife's wishes. The Bushes also reflect on why their honeymoon has lasted 45 years and comment on the heartbreak they endured with the death of their daughter Robin in 1953.

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
NEW YORK TIMES SYNDICATE

Barbara Bush believes that one of the reasons her marriage to George has worked so well is that she is "not possessive" of him. "Sharing our lives has been most important," she says. "George is thoughtful and has been good about including me in almost everything he does, and that makes all the difference."

They have shared the good times and the bad. In times of stress they are a comfort to each other.

"George and I have grown together," she says. "We're part of each other's lives and he has al-

ways made me feel loved."

She relates that when something irritates them, they are direct and honest with each other. "You know, we don't have spats. Isn't that awful?" she asks in mock disbelief. "I can't recall having a real fight with him." The president says, "We seldom argue, and when we do it's over in a hurry."

How does their love manifest itself? "In lots of personal ways and quietly," the president said. "There is no need for us to shore each other up — we have a confident relationship. We kid each other, we worry about the children and grandchildren, we care about the dog — we're happy just doing things we like — together."

He describes their special affection for Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland — its serenity and scenic beauty. "Being there together," he says, "even if we're doing different things ... just sharing our lives — that makes for a happy marriage, and that's what our love is all about."

On Jan. 6, 1989, during preparations for Bush's inauguration (as 41st president), he and Barbara were packing for the move to the White House. In all the excitement the president-elect was able



PLEASE SEE **BUSHES/6** **The Bushes: Honeymoon has lasted 45 years**

Happy 45th!

Bushes reflect on marriage

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Washington, D.C. — Today, Barbara and George Bush will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary. Their years as a couple have spanned a major period of American and world history — with Bush himself often a key participant. Yet they have been successful in making sure that the turmoil and the pressures stopped at the threshold of their home.

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Seventeen-year-old Bush was at a Christmas dance at the Greenwich Country Club in Greenwich, Conn., where he grew up.

When he first saw 16-year-old Barbara, he summoned the courage to ask a mutual friend for an introduction. "She was wearing a red and green dress, all Christmasy, and she was beautiful," the president tells me. "That and her friendly smile were what first attracted me."

He asked for the next dance. But when the band began to play a waltz, he told her he didn't know how to waltz, so they sat out that dance and began to talk. They chatted through the next three dances. "We found we had a lot in common, even our senses

of humor," he recalls. "I wanted to see her again."

He did see her again — "a night or two later" — at another Christmas dance, this one in nearby Rye, N.Y., Barbara's hometown. "We both went back to school, but during spring vacation we saw each other quite a bit," Bush says. "Then I took her to my senior prom at Andover." (The president graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., on June 4, 1942 and eight days later, on his 18th birthday, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a seaman second class.)

Barbara Bush recalls that George was not only handsome but also very pleasant. "It wasn't love at first sight," she adds, "but we enjoyed each other's company from the start."

Dorothy Walker Bush, now 88 years old, remembers her as a wholesome teen-ager with a cheerful disposition. "As the family got to know her, we grew to love her," she says. "Over the



FILE PHOTO

The Bushes enjoy a private moment watching his nomination on television in August 1988.

gether," Prescott recalls. "And today, while I'm proud of what

been good about including me in almost everything he does, and that makes all the difference."

tions for Bush's inauguration, he and Barbara were packing for the move to the White House. In all

From Whittier to White House, Nixons' Love Conquers All



PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON and his wife, Pat, in their Cherry Hill, N.J., home.

JOHN TAYLOR

BY TRUDE B. FELDMAN

First of 2 parts

Fifty years ago today, Thelma Catherine (Pat) Ryan, a poised and pretty school teacher, and Richard Milhouse Nixon, a handsome, determined deputy city attorney, were married at the Mission Inn in Riverside, Calif.

Elegant in a blue lace, ankle-length outfit, Pat Ryan is remembered as a radiant bride, bubbling with happiness and confident of a bright future. Dapper in a dark suit, Richard Nixon was reserved, yet genial.

Their relationship began in February, 1938, when Richard Nixon returned home to Whittier, Calif., to practice law, after graduating from Duke University Law School. At Whittier High School,

Pat Ryan was teaching commercial subjects. A common interest in drama led to their first meeting, while they were auditioning for a play, *The Dark Tower* in the Sunday school room of St. Mathias Church.

Nixon, who says he fell in love with Pat Ryan at the first encounter, remembers the incredulous expression on her face when he made her blush by impulsively blurting out, "You may not believe me now, but I expect to marry you some day."

That "some day" came on June 21, 1940, in a Quaker ceremony, performed by a minister in the Society of Friends.

The groom's brother, Edward, recently reminiscing about the ceremony says, "As a 10-year-old, I was not especially interested in the folderol of a wedding. But my brother and this beautiful, new friend with red hair and

a vivacious spirit were important to me. I remember being concerned that this questionable and mysterious institution of marriage might deprive me of these two people."

Edward Nixon also relates that a highlight of the "big event on June 21st," was the reception. "My parents baked the wedding cake," he said, "and the punch was refreshing."

"I was impressed with the ballroom's odor of stucco on adobe, instead of the misty dust of an ordinary church. The high ceiling was draped with earth-colored fabric, and the air was especially cool, relative to the ubiquitous heat outside."

He recalls being "grateful that the wedding wasn't to be a whole-day event."

see NIXON pg. 7

*Nixons' 50th Anniversary
June 21 1990 - 2 parts
and 22*

For his brother, however, the event was the culmination of 28 months of single-minded pursuit of the independent Pat Ryan. Richard Nixon had known exactly what he wanted in a wife, and had used his romantic nature to win Pat Ryan's affection. But she had been reluctant to commit herself.

He had proposed marriage many times, so often, in fact, that at one point she called for a halt to any serious talk.

She even talked him into dating her friend, yet when he did so, he used the time to talk about Pat. On those occasions when Pat told him she couldn't go out with him because she needed to grade her students' papers, he offered to help her with the grading.

During the first few months of their courtship, he romanced her with gifts and notes. At the start of her first summer recess in 1938, he gave her a clock with an attached note, on which he wrote: "You'll never grow old in spite of the many times this clock turns, because you'll always be young — inside."

In *Pat Nixon: The Untold Story* (Simon and Schuster), Mrs. Nixon tells author Julie Nixon Eisenhower that what had appealed to her about Richard Nixon was his drive and his tenacity. "He always saw possibilities," she remembers. "He believed that life could be good and that problems — if you couldn't solve them, you could make things a little better.

"I also liked his sense of humor and his enthusiasm. He was handsome in a strong way and had wonderful quality in his voice."

One evening, two years after their initial meeting, Nixon took Pat for a drive along the California Coast Highway. He chose a romantic setting near Dana Point and parked the car. Again, he proposed marriage and this time she accepted.

Thirty two years later, as President of the United States, Nixon was riding in a sedan with his White House Chief of Staff, Alexander M. Haig, Jr. "We were near his San Clemente home," Haig recalls. "As we approached Dana Point, the President asked the driver to slow down. Pointing to the promontory over the Pacific, Nixon confided that that was the site where he asked Pat to marry him."

Haig remembers being impressed that Nixon, normally reserved about personal matters, felt comfortable sharing that moment's nostalgia "at a time when we were intensely engaged in presidential business."

Several weeks after Pat's acceptance, Nixon sent her an engagement ring in a May Day basket, filled with flowers. Later, he sent this love note:

"From the first days I knew you, you were destined to be a great lady. You have always had that extra something which takes people out of the mediocre class. And now, Dear Heart, I want to work with you towards the destiny you are bound to fulfill. As I have told you

many times, living together will make us both grow, and by reason of it we shall realize our dreams. You are a great inspiration to me, and though you don't believe it yet, I someday shall return some of the benefit you have conferred upon me.

"It is our job to go forth together and accomplish great ends and we shall do it. Through the years, whatever happens, I shall always be with you — loving you more every hour and attempting to let you feel that love in your heart and life."

Now, 50 years after Nixon wrote the engagement note, he believes that he has fulfilled his promises to Pat Ryan and to himself.

Last Friday the former president told me: "What strikes me today is how right I was about Pat — even then. I said she was destined to be a great lady, and she was one of the finest first ladies in history. What I couldn't have anticipated then was how strong she would be, and how much her support would mean to me during the difficult experiences we went through in public life.

"Without Pat, I wouldn't have made it."

Eighteen months after they married,

"He took the presidency very seriously"

the United States was at war, and Richard Nixon volunteered for service in the Navy. On his 29th birthday (January 9, 1942), he moved with Pat to Washington, D.C., where they both took jobs with the Office of Price Administration (OPA).

But 60 days later, Nixon was assigned to the South Pacific as a Naval officer. Lt. Commander Nixon for the following year exchanged daily letters with Pat. In openly expressive and romantic notes, he assured her of his affection.

One note read: "I may not say much when I am with you, but all of me loves all of you all the time ... When you write, please say 'I love you' because I always look for that first. You are the only one for me. It has been that way from the first."

Perhaps he was revealing something about his personality when he wrote, "I'm anti-social. Except for you.

"I'd rather be by myself as a steady diet rather than with most any of the people I know. I like to do what I want, when I want. Only where you're concerned do I feel otherwise."

After spending a weekend leave with Pat, he wrote her: "The visit was wonderful. Coming back, I looked at myself in the window and thought how

lucky I was to have you. I certainly am not the Romeo type and you are so beautiful. I was proud of you every minute."

Pat Nixon, who found his letters endearing, now looks back at them with fond memories.

"It is so like Dick to have put his feelings in a letter," Mrs. Nixon told me recently. "On public issues he can speak more forcefully and persuasively than anyone I have ever heard. But on personal matters, when he wants to say what is in his heart, he almost always puts it in writing."

In January, 1946, the Nixons returned to California, where he began his first campaign for Congress, seeking a 12th District seat. From the start, Pat and Richard Nixon were a good campaign team. His knowledge of law and history and political acumen were complemented by her intelligence, and ability to relate to people in all walks of life.

She shared the limelight with class, standing beside her husband when he was applauded. When the applause began to fade, she handled that well, too, carrying herself with a quiet dignity.

When he became president, she graciously accepted the responsibilities as well as the rewards of her role as First Lady.

When I asked Mrs. Nixon how it felt to be the President's wife she responded: "Being his wife just for the glory is not the issue. I want to achieve the stature of a creative First Lady, and my goals are to make my own contribution to our nation."

Some of her contributions are now documented in her husband's recent book *In the Arena — A Memoir of Victory, Defeat and Renewal* (Simon & Schuster).

There, he gives some of the reasons why he believes his First Lady will be remembered as one of America's greatest First Ladies.

"She was a superb goodwill ambassador, having visited 75 nations around the world," he states. "She was America's most widely traveled First Lady, having campaigned in all 50 states as part of the 'Pat and Dick Team'."

Prior to her White House years, Pat Nixon had already traveled with her husband to 53 countries, including Asia, Africa and Latin America. She had also accompanied him on the first visits of a president to the Soviet Union and China, and traveled alone to Peru in 1970 following an earthquake, to bring relief supplies and galvanize volunteer efforts.

Nixon also describes Pat as "remarkably well, considering what she has been through." Since she had been against his resigning the presidency in 1974, believing he should have fought to the end, he says the torment was

see NIXON pg 8

more difficult for her than for him.

"At the time of my resignation speech," he writes, "Pat stood with me — erect and proud, though her heart was breaking. I still marvel at how she was able to go 48 hours without sleep while supervising the packing of our personal belongings for the move from the White House."

He adds that it didn't seem possible that she could bear any more grief. "I still don't know how she could have gone through what she has in the past 40 years," he says. "But, always, she has conducted herself with masterful

poise and dignity."

For a long time, Mrs. Nixon worried that because of Watergate and all that it entailed, history might neglect her husband's accomplishments. Now, however, she is convinced that "when the Watergate story is better understood, people will agree that he never sought personal gain.

"He took the presidency very seriously," she told me. "His ultimate goal was to achieve a peaceful world, one built on trust and respect. I feel sure that when his contributions are assessed, he'll go into history as a great and a peace-loving president."

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Nixons Mark 50 Years of Marriage and Great Events

BY TRUDE B. FELDMAN

Last of 2 parts

Since 1940 there have been many changes in the lives of Pat Ryan the teacher and Richard Milhouse Nixon the lawyer. At each stage in their married life, however, they exemplified a devoted couple.

As they mark their golden wedding anniversary — despite monumental strains that would have devastated many a relationship — they maintain their emotional compatibility as well as the togetherness of the family unit.

After a 2-week honeymoon in Mexico, they set up their first home, a one bedroom furnished apartment in Long Beach, Calif.

Today, they live in a 15-room house in Saddle River, N.J., not far from New York City. After many years at the center of world attention, they have adjusted to a serene environment — an oasis of calm that they have created. They cherish their time with each other. They take walks, swim and watch sports and movies on television. They enjoy reading and entertaining.

One of their greatest pleasures is visiting with their children, Tricia and Julie, and their four grandchildren.

Among other visitors are Helene and Jack Drown, who have known the Nixons since before their marriage. As guests at the Nixon home last Easter, Mrs. Drown says, "It was wonderful to be with them. Throughout the years, we've had interesting times together. But this Easter was especially enjoyable because our grandchildren had the chance to play with theirs.

see NIXON pg 7

NIXON

from page 1

"Pat and Dick are gracious hosts and their home is filled with warmth and camaraderie. They haven't lost their sense of humor, so we still have fun together."

Mrs. Drown adds that despite "some difficult political years" for the Nixons, their marriage has never been affected, and that "they're as happy together today as they were when we double-dated over 50 years ago."

Revealing her sentiments about the Richard Nixon she has now known for more than 52 years Pat Nixon told me, "I knew Dick was a young man who was going to go places, but I never could have guessed how far! The memories of the wonderful experiences — the travel, the people around the world, the great successes of his administration in bringing peace and prosperity — will always be with me. So will the memories of the difficult times. It is all part of the whole. All marriages, and all lives, have triumphs and tragedies, laughter and tears, and ours has been no different. What really matters is whether, after all of that, you still strengthen one another and comfort one another ..."

Born in Ely, Nev., Pat Ryan was raised in a 5-room farmhouse in Artesia, Calif. She grew up during the Depression, was orphaned while in high school and worked her way through college, graduating with honors from the University of Southern California in 1937.

Today, at 78, she carries herself with the grace that has long been characteristic of her. Her verve and radiance still shine through. She remains slender and attractive, and despite having suffered two strokes, she is agile and active.

Together with Mrs. Nixon, the former president is preparing for the July 19 dedication of the Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, where he was born 77 1/2 years ago. He notes that the dedication (and the dinner in Los Angeles) will mark the first time the entire Nixon family will be together in public since 1974, when they departed the White House.

Some of Nixon's books are being re-issued in special Nixon Library and Birthplace editions by Simon & Schuster.

Since his first book, *Six Crises*, published in 1962, he has written seven others, including *In the Arena, RN; The Memoirs of Richard Nixon* (1978); *The Real War* (1980); *Leaders* (1982); *Real Peace: A Strategy for the West* (1983); *No More Vietnams* (1985); *1999: Victory Without War* (1988).

For Richard Nixon, an inherently introspective person, the family has always been of the highest priority.

John Taylor, who has worked for him for the past 10 years, observes: "Anyone who has the privilege of being around the Nixon family is always struck by their fierce, affectionate togetherness and their strong mutual respect. They trust and learn from each other's opinions and instincts. This is particularly true of Richard Nixon and his First Lady. When he wants a reaction to one of his speeches or television appearances, for instance, hers is invariably the one to which he

gives the greatest weight."

Yet, for most of their 28 years in public life, a perception has persisted that the Nixons are not close, that they show little or no affection toward one another.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," says Bebe Rebozo, an intimate friend for nearly 40 years. "The relationship between husband and wife should remain private no matter how public the official."

Rebozo accompanied the Nixons with their daughters on their silver wedding anniversary trip to Mexico when, for nostalgic reasons, they returned to the land where they had spent their honeymoon 25 years earlier.

"Perhaps the public hasn't recognized the affection and loyalty the President and Pat have for each other," Rebozo adds. "The public also doesn't know how empathic and really nice they are — how concerned they are about others

out, "but if the Nixons do, they must have kept them private."

Graham remembers a conversation on the plane to Liberia when he accompanied Pat Nixon to the inaugural of its president. She was the first president's wife to officially represent the United States abroad.

"Mrs. Nixon talked with a few of us about her love for her husband, and how happy they were together," Graham recalls. "They have always been close. But the Watergate ordeal really proved Pat's loyalty to her husband. It was a devastating time for them. Yet, she stood by him with dignity, and the entire country admired that."

Another friend of 44 years, Robert H. Finch, puts it this way: "It's true the Nixons were not outgoing and effusive in their affection in public. But they were brought up that it was not 'seemly' to demonstrate affection in

bantered back and forth as only a husband and wife who interact on the same wavelength can ... perhaps only couples who have shared many ups and downs, are able to understand."

Finch, a former lieutenant governor of California, says that during campaign trips, particularly when relaxing after personal joint appearances or speeches, the Nixons would discuss events, the players and the circumstances with a practiced eye, candid comments and specific reactions.

"Pat would express her views, even when they didn't agree with her husband's," he remembers. "She was quite forthcoming when responding to his questions about certain 'punchlines' within a talk, and the reaction they had received."

Recalling the night of the 1960 election when the Nixons were in Los Angeles awaiting the returns of the presidential count, Finch says, "Pat was among those of us urging her husband not to concede when California and other states were still outstanding, even though the early returns indicated John Kennedy was a probable winner. Television coverage evidenced not only the anguish, but the grace under pressure with which she sustained that ordeal."

Nonetheless, with all of Pat's courage and convictions, her readiness to stand at her husband's side through his tempestuous political years, has pitted hard on her inner strength.

Looking back over the past half century, Pat's brother-in-law, Edward Nixon, says, "I was only 10 when my brother married Pat. Now I'm 60 years old, and I believe that foremost among my brother's great achievements was ... way back in 1940, when he married Pat."

Agreeing with his kid brother, Richard Nixon says that asking Pat Ryan to be his wife turned out to be "my best decision."

Twenty years ago, when Julie and David Eisenhower were married, his grandfather, former president Dwight D. Eisenhower, sent the couple a message: "David is the luckiest man in the world to get such a girl as Julie."

When reminded of that message, Julie's father remarked: "The same is true about me. Fifty years ago, I was the luckiest man in the world because I got Pat."

Reflecting on what Pat has meant to him during those 50 years, Richard Nixon also told me: "I think back to when I was vice president and could never spend the time I would have liked to spend with Tricia and Julie. Pat had her own grueling schedule, and yet she found the time to compensate for my absences. Many young people growing up in the '60s had a rough time of it, and some were scarred for life. But our family came through it stronger than ever."

"So a large part of what Pat has meant to me is that she has meant so much to Tricia and Julie and now our grandchildren."

"As wife, mother, and grandmother, Pat has been an unfailing source of support, guidance and love. She has been a tower of strength for us in both good times and bad, today even more than when we married 50 years ago."

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June, 1990



AP

FORMER PRESIDENT Richard Nixon and his wife Pat are seen in the backyard of their Saddle River, N.J., home yesterday, which was their 50th anniversary.

... For example, they have always generously given to many charities, even when they couldn't afford to give, and very few people know about that either."

The Rev. Billy Graham concurs. He and his wife, Ruth, also have known the Nixons for the past 40 years, and believe that they have always adored and respected each other.

Yes, Graham says, "there has been a myth" that they are cold towards one another. "But," he adds, "they both hold the view that the intimacy of marriage and affection is not for the public. As a personal friend, I've been a witness to their closeness. I have seen them, on more than one occasion, holding hands. And often, when Dick Nixon would leave home, he'd stop to kiss Pat goodbye."

Moreover, Graham notes that in the 4 decades he has been around the Nixons, he has never heard them argue. "All couples have disagreements," he points

public, which was not unusual for people of their generation.

"I do know they have a warm private life together, as rich and deep as any two people in marriage. And such characteristics manifest themselves in the Nixon children and grandchildren."

Finch, who served as Chief of Staff of Nixon's vice presidential office, director of his 1960 presidential campaign and as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in the Nixon Cabinet, says he has many memories of Pat and Dick Nixon in 'non-public' settings.

On the last night of the Nixon vice presidency, Finch went to the Nixon home to bring some final papers requiring a signature. "It was late," he recalls, "and the next morning, the Nixons were scheduled to accompany the newly elected president and his wife (John and Jackie Kennedy) at the inaugural ceremonies. So that was clearly an emotional time. Yet, Pat kept lightly teasing her husband. They

1987

AMIDST the controversy surrounding the First Lady's role in the White House, Nancy and Ronald Reagan celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary yesterday. In separate interviews, the President and First Lady talked to White House Correspondent Trude Feldman about their philosophy of love and marriage. The First Couple reflect on their lives together and reveal how their unique personalities complement one another's. In addition, Feldman focuses on how — as a couple — they are coping during this critical period.

By TRUDE FELDMAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On March 4, 35 years ago, Ronald Reagan, a handsome actor, and Nancy Davis, a radiant actress, were married in the Little Brown Church in California's San Fernando Valley. Actor William Holden was the best man and his wife Ardis (actress Brenda Marshall) was matron of honor.

From the beginning, their marriage has been filled with love and mutual respect, which they feel has been responsible in large part for the long and exciting journey culminating in the White House.

"Nancy moved into my heart and replaced an emptiness I had been trying to ignore for a long time," Ronald Reagan told me last week. "She turned away from a promising career in films because she believed that being a wife was a full-time career. And if that included being a First Lady, she'd be a First Lady."

Today, that First Lady and President of the U.S.A. are still in love, exemplifying a togetherness few couples enjoy. During their 35 years as husband and wife, they have enriched each other's lives and captivated the hearts and minds of people around the world.

But their devotion and the joy and comfort they find in each other has never been tested so severely as in the crisis now engulfing the White House, one which threatens to destroy the Reagan presidency. That special love has helped to give Ronald Reagan the fortitude to face his critics.

When I asked the President how Nancy is helping him to cope with his current crisis, he said: "She has made it so natural for us to be as one that we never face anything as the problem of one or the other of us. It is our problem to be dealt with as something affecting the two of us."

After his recent prostate surgery, Nancy nursed him back to strength with "T.L.C." — tender loving care.

"In the hospital, I was given the best of care," the President told me. "But life was normal only when Nancy was there — and she was there nearly every minute. I'm almost afraid to think how empty and dreary my life would be if Nancy had not come into it."

How did Nancy Davis (born Ann Frances Robbins) come into Ronald Wilson Reagan's life?

In the 1930s, the name "Nancy Davis" often surfaced on a list of Communist sympathizers. Knowing she herself was innocent, she told Mervyn LeRoy, then a producer-director at MGM Studios, of her concern. LeRoy mentioned it to the president of the Screen Actors Guild — Ronald Reagan. LeRoy asked Reagan to look into the matter and telephone Nancy about it.

With Ronald Reagan's telephone call, their romance began.

He invited her for an early dinner. On their first date, Ronald Reagan was on crutches. He'd



35 years

broken his leg while playing baseball in a charity game. They went to LaRue's on the Sunset Strip.

The original purpose for their date was "quickly dismissed." There were, Ronald Reagan told Nancy, a number of women with the name "Nancy Davis" in Hollywood. Then they talked about "what seemed to be hundreds of other things."

"I don't know if it was love at first sight," Nancy said, "but it was something close to that."

"As I got to know him better, I found him to be a sincere, compassionate, intelligent man."

He did the old-fashioned thing by

'Nancy moved into my heart and replaced an emptiness'

asking her father for her hand. That, she said, endeared him to her even more.

"They became engaged and planned to be married a month later. The wedding was postponed twice when films were scheduled for him. Finally, between productions, they got married — without fanfare. Nancy Reagan recalls very little of the wedding ceremony because she was "so excited, I wasn't thinking straight."

"I don't remember Ronnie kissing me," she said. "I don't remember saying our 'I do's' and I don't even remember the minister pronouncing us man and wife."

The newlyweds spent their wedding night at the Riverside Inn in Riverside, Cal. They "shared" their honeymoon — at the Biltmore in Phoenix, Ariz. — with Nancy's parents, who were vacationing there. "A honeymoon with parents may seem strange," she said. "But to us it was natural."

Today, Nancy and Ronald Reagan agree they've been on a "constant honeymoon" ever since.

Their first child was a girl.

Returning from the hospital with daughter Patricia Ann, Nancy was surprised to find an olive tree that the proud new father had planted in front of their home.

Five and a half years after Patricia Ann was born, the Reagans gave her a brother, Ronald Prescott.

"I think our children are now grown up enough to know and appreciate the kind of mother they have," Ronald Reagan said. "Because of my work and my traveling, when they were young the burden of discipline fell on Nancy. I was the fellow coming from a trip with a surprise for them; Nancy was the one to see that homework was done."

In 1962, when Nancy Davis married the president of the Screen Actors Guild, she certainly didn't know she was marrying a future President of the U.S. But she has taken her role as First Lady in stride, mingling comfortably with heads of state. She still finds it difficult to deal with criticism of her husband.

"I don't mind fair or honest criticism or disagreement," she said. "But it really bothers me when I read criticism about my husband that makes him appear unfeeling or unsympathetic, because he is just the opposite."

Years ago, as the wife of California's governor, she'd cope by taking a hot bath and holding imaginary conversations with her husband's critics. "I would think of just the right words to say. And no one was able to answer me back. I would leave the bath feeling wonderful," she said.

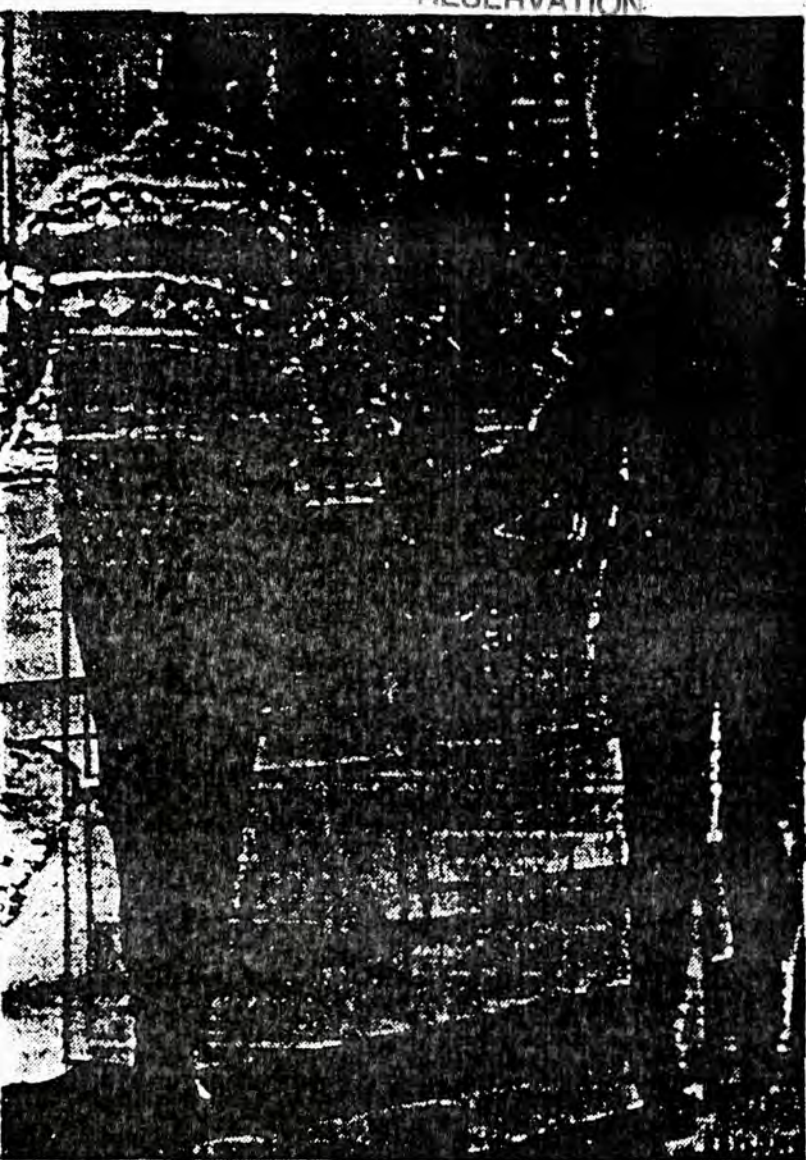
Today, with her husband under intense and increasing criticism from around the world, one way she copes is by working out on exercise equipment on the second floor of the residence. "This daily exercise helps to ease emotional strains," Mrs. Reagan said.

RON & NANCY

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earned at reports of the President's "downfall," said, "The pity of it all is that this sordid scandal is erasing all the good they have accomplished in the past six years. More important to the world is that the unfolding crisis could have been avoided — if only there was communication at the top. The problems should not have been allowed to fester."

Neither Nancy nor Ronald Reagan will ever forget the traumatic day six years ago when the President was shot. When he awoke from surgery, he quipped to Nancy, "Honey, I forgot to duck."

Since that day, whenever they part, she watches his departure from the balcony of the South Portico. As he boards the helicopter, they throw kisses. "Every time Ronnie leaves the White House," she said, "my heart seems to stop until he returns."

Michael K. Deaver, a long-time adviser and close friend to the First Couple, said, "Nancy's life is Ronald Reagan, and she came close to losing him."

A few months after the shooting, Nancy went to England for the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. Joseph W. Cannon, then assistant to the President, accompanied Nancy and recalled, "It was the first time since the President had been shot that Nancy was away from him for that length of time [6 days]. She was visibly apprehensive waiting till the seven-hour flight ended so she could telephone him."

Nancy has been described as a political influence over her husband.

Lyn Nofziger, a longtime associate of the Reagans, said, "It's my feeling that if Nancy adamantly didn't want him to run for governor or President, he probably would not have. She certainly has had an impact on his political career."

In "A Portrait of Nancy Reagan" (published by St. Martin's Press and based on the NBC News

"White Paper" document), Chris Wallace notes that Reagan is "even more po than she is said to be, and the years pass, my guess is will be surprised to learn much influence she had decisions..."

He added: "I learned that Reagan called the personnel in the White House to suggest appointments."

"Most important, Mrs. Reagan confirmed she played a key role in the 1984 campaign in around the President's policy toward the Soviets — end hard-line rhetoric and send feelers for negotiations — no small part blunted Democratic charges that Mr. Reagan got the country into a war."

Nancy and Ronald have been each other's sounding

"No one should take marriage for granted"

and given one another emotional support. They discuss everything each one does. Not only has she involved her in his activities has engaged him in her career.

In her crusade to end drug abuse, her commitment is total. She has traveled more than 100,000 miles in 28 states and six countries. To all young people, her message is: Play ball, say no to drugs. Last September the First Couple made a speech on drug abuse.

She was the catalyst of the President's decision to make drug abuse one of his priorities.

The Reagans generally venerate people, but unabashedly show affection in public.

Selma Roosevelt, chief of protocol for the U.S., said, "The Reagans know how to make guests

Ronald Reagan's welfare is Nancy's top priority.

She prefers that the President eat lunch on the patio so he can get fresh air and sunshine. She also prefers that his schedule be less crowded to give him time "to be alone and think for himself."

Mrs. Reagan told Chris Wallace, NBC White House Correspondent, she is "aware of people who try to take advantage of my husband... then all my antennae go up and I try to stop it."

Donald T. Regan, who on Friday resigned after two years as White House chief of staff, said: "Nancy Reagan tries to be helpful to her husband. She means well, but it's a question of judgment. Sometimes, overprotection — rather than

being helpful — is harmful."

Mrs. Reagan describes her husband as an "extremely patient" man. It is only when people aren't loyal to him, don't level with him or don't recognize that he means what he says that the President becomes impatient, even annoyed.

One close friend said it is "understandably a difficult period" for the Reagans. "Nancy feels that anyone working for him should be loyal. She doesn't realize that they are both being deceived by staff who use White House positions for personal gain. The President's weakness is that he won't fire anyone, even those who have damaged or are damaging his stature as a world leader."

Another friend, "genuinely con-

come [at the White House]. They know just how to combine real affection with dignity. As we await our visitors, the Reagans will stand, hand in hand."

Vice President George Bush attests to the deep affection the First Couple share. He told me, "Nancy is a devoted and loving wife, and when I'm with the President, I sense the genuine devotion he has for her. Their strong bond is an inspiration to married couples."

Richard Wirthlin, the President's pollster, said that those who have long known the First Couple continue to be both impressed and warmed by the devotion they show to each other in a hundred different ways. "I remember Valentine's Day in 1980, when Ronald Reagan was facing severe trials in reorganizing his presidential campaign," Wirthlin said, "yet, his primary concern during a crucial meeting was how he would get a Valentine to Nancy . . . He left the meeting, sat down alone, and wrote a note to his Valentine."

Asked how their love manifests itself, Nancy said, "Ronnie is a sentimental man. On my birthday, he still sends flowers to my mother, and in the accompanying card, he thanks her for giving birth to me."

While Mrs. Reagan is reluctant to give advice to others for a happy marriage, she said: "You have to work at it. No one should take marriage for granted. You learn when to give."

To Ronald Reagan, marriage means entering the "most meaningful relationship" there is.

"In our marriage, there has been an abundance of pleasure and that has grown with each year," he told me. "Not only do I still love Nancy, but I still admire her."

On Feb. 6, when Nancy helped her husband blow out the candles on his birthday cake and cut the first piece, the President told her, "You've made my day." To hear it from Ronald Reagan, Nancy has "made" 12,771 days for him.

Reflecting on all those days, Ronald Reagan concludes: "Whatever I like doing, I like better if Nancy is a part of it. All the comic section jokes about a husband trying to get out of the house to go bowling, or whatever else, go right over my head. Nancy is my partner, my friend, my wife — everything a woman should be in a man's life."

Is there anything about Nancy that her husband would like to change . . . after all their years together?

"Well, she worries when she thinks something might upset me or might go wrong," the President told me. "If she would only realize that nothing important can go wrong as long as I have her . . ."

Editor's note: Trude B. Feldman has known the Reagans since their California days. A native of Hollywood, Cal., she was an extra in the movies and her SAG card was signed by Ronald Reagan.

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Other Voices

Eleanor Roosevelt's last trip to Israel; a first-hand recollection

Twenty-one years ago today, Eleanor Roosevelt began a five-day visit to Israel, her last trip out of the United States. Trude B. Feldman, a White House correspondent, accompanied the former First Lady. The following article is based on Feldman's diary of the journey.

"I LOVE TO COME HERE. It's a good place to see vast changes, and the impact of immigration. Out of the sands, the people have carved a wonderful existence . . ."

These observations came from Eleanor Roosevelt during a visit to Israel in 1962, the last of many trips before her death later that year.

Trude B.
Feldman

She was impressed by the changes since her previous visit three years earlier, and she kept shaking her head in disbelief each time she was shown another hurdle the Israelis had managed to overcome.

I accompanied her on the intensive tour and at the close of each day she gave me her thoughts and comments on the people she met and the places she saw.

Although she had been out of the White House since her husband's death in 1945, Mrs. Roosevelt was accorded the highest formal honors. She was received by Prime Minister David Ben Gurion; by Israeli President and Mrs. Yitshak Ben Zvi; by Foreign Minister Golda Meir; by Minister of Education and Culture Abba Eban, Agriculture Minister Moshe Dayan, and other officials eager to show her their country's progress.

At the age of 78, Mrs. Roosevelt was indefatigable and persevering. Though this visit was her fourth, she seemed to sense that would be her last. She wanted to crowd in everything—every hospital, every school, every kibbutz.

Her favorite spots were Degania, Is-

Bar Ilan University, then 1,000 students in quonset huts, now a modern university.

In the pediatric ward of the Hadassah University Medical Center in Jerusalem, Mrs. Roosevelt sat at the bedside of a number of children and tried to cheer them. When we toured B'nai B'rith Children's Home — founded for the children of Holocaust victims, supervisor Chezi Cohen told her the home treats emotionally disturbed boys in an atmosphere of consistent love and attention.

At "Maskit," the handcraft center of Israel, Ruth Dayan, wife of Moshe Dayan, introduced Mrs. Roosevelt to new immigrants from the Arabian desert, including a woman who was weaving cotton place mats. "Maskit," a Biblical term for "beautiful objects" was founded in 1954 as a government company under the then minister of labor, Golda Meir. Today, a multimillion dollar business owned by the Israel Investors Corporation, Maskit has nine elegant shops in Israel.

Ruth Dayan recalls Mrs. Roosevelt's untiring energy. "She wanted details about everything and everyone. Her interest in 'Maskit' was the human aspect — in that we gave jobs to immigrants with no skills."

At Bet Berl, a labor college, Mrs. Roosevelt selected as the subject of her address, "Humanism and Politics".

"Whether democracy works or not," she said, "depends on the interest people take in the workings of government. Education can serve democracy by urging young people to become interested in politics. I've seen totalitarianism at work in Russia and I don't like it." She repeated similar remarks to students in the lecture hall at Hebrew University named for Eleanor Roosevelt.

En route to Beersheba, in Israel's Negev Desert, we stopped in the ancient town of Ashkelon, where Samson courted Delilah. As we lunched on a terrace overlooking the sea, birds flew around our table, picking crumbs here and there. One

from the desert, the mayor greeted Mrs. Roosevelt and took us to HIAS House (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), where we met immigrants, soldiers and municipal leaders, including the bearded, hatted Sephardic Chief Rabbi and his wife from Algeria. Mrs. Roosevelt conversed in French with them. The rabbi was later asked why he shook hands with a woman, a departure from Orthodox practice. In Hebrew, so as not to embarrass her, the rabbi replied: "She is no ordinary woman — she is royalty."

Also in Hebrew she was greeted by



former Mayor Tuviyahu. Yet, even before his words were translated, she laughed at the appropriate time.

Especially dear to her was the Eleanor Roosevelt Youth Day Center, part of the Youth Aliyah organization in Beersheba, a pre-vocational training school geared to the needs of North African immigrant children. There, Mrs. Roosevelt received an overwhelming reception and flowers from the students. But the flowers seemed to fade by comparison when she saw the smiling faces and heard their "Shalom, Shalom".

During her tour of workshops, the youngsters who couldn't manage to get inside had pressed their noses against the windows to get a glimpse of her. She stopped, waved at them and remarked, "Children are children in any part of the world. Their faces are filled with beautiful expressions. They have the whole of our world to drink in . . ."

She paused to speak with one boy in a shop mechanics class. He understood no English, but from the excitement, he realized it was Mrs. Roosevelt who gave him the opportunity to learn a trade. Bowing in gentlemanly fashion, he shook her hand and bashfully said, "Shalom, shalom," and "Todah Rabah" (many thanks).

In the sewing class, Mrs. Roosevelt took one girl's hand in hers. It struck me as a kind of symbol, as if this gracious lady was imparting the experience and wisdom of her 78 years to the innocence of youth. As we departed, the youngsters put their hands to their lips to throw her a kiss — their only means of overcoming the language barrier.

Mrs. Roosevelt was enthusiastic about the tremendous growth of Beersheba, the city she had come to regard as her yardstick in Israel. "I can measure the many changes that take place each time I return," she told me. "Beersheba seems to me to be one of the miracles of Israel. All

warmth and is typical of the community." The painting was presented to her and she talked about it again that night while she packed it in her suitcase.

Another painting — by a witness at the Eichmann trial — was especially poignant. She knew that I had attended each of the 122 sessions of that trial in 1961, and commented, "It must have been quite an ordeal . . . You must tell me about some of the personal stories of the witnesses."

One evening, Mrs. Roosevelt told me of her visit to the Displaced Persons Camp in Germany after World War II where tens of thousands of Jews and survivors of Nazism were hoping and praying for the right to emigrate to Palestine.

"I'll never forget those children," she recalled. "In particular, there was one infant girl. I was sure she would die. Nine years later, however, on a visit to Israel, a woman approached me. It was that baby's mother. She had waded ashore at night from an illegal ship. With her now was a healthy girl, with pigtails. It was the child I thought would not live out that day."

At the close of the hectic five days together, I asked Mrs. Roosevelt if she ever got tired. "The different people and the various places were so interesting that there wasn't time to be tired," she responded. "And I feel younger, even better when I'm here. I love the enthusiasm and the drive in the people. They are really an inspiration. Visiting Israel and following its progress has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life . . ."

Eight and a half months later, I attended Eleanor Roosevelt's funeral in Hyde Park. In contrast to the panoply that marked her life as a world humanitarian, her funeral was a simple and moving occasion. She was laid to rest not only as the widow of a popular president, but as a woman beloved by tens of millions who never saw her as she was seen

Remembering her last visit:

Mrs. Roosevelt radiated love for all of Israel's people

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
White House Correspondent

"Israel is a lesson in how one can develop a nation. I love to come here. It's a good place to see vast changes and the impact of immigration. Out of the sands, the people have carved a wonderful fruitful existence..."

So observed Eleanor Roosevelt during a five-day visit to Israel 21 years ago. It was her fourth trip there and her last. The former First Lady died eight months later.

I accompanied Mrs. Roosevelt during her eventful visit, Feb. 22 to 27, 1962, and recall her wonder at the "swift progress and enormous changes" made since she had last been there three years earlier.

She marveled every time she was shown another hurdle the Israelis had managed to surmount. She even enjoyed the occasional traffic jams that halted our car, saying: "Traffic snarls are a sure sign of progress. Everything is so vibrant."

Although she had been out of the White House since Franklin Delano Roosevelt died in 1945, Mrs. Roosevelt was received by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and by Israeli president and Mrs. Yitzhak Ben-Zvi. She met with Foreign Minister Golda Meir and Minister of Education and Culture Abba Eban as well as other officials eager to show her their country's progress.

Ben-Gurion, the 'youngster'

I remember how Mrs. Roosevelt marveled at Ben-Gurion's sturdy health at the age of 76. "I'm impressed by how he runs up the stairs," she remarked. "Stairs have been bothering me for quite some time even when I was Ben-Gurion's age. Maybe it's because he stands on his head every day."

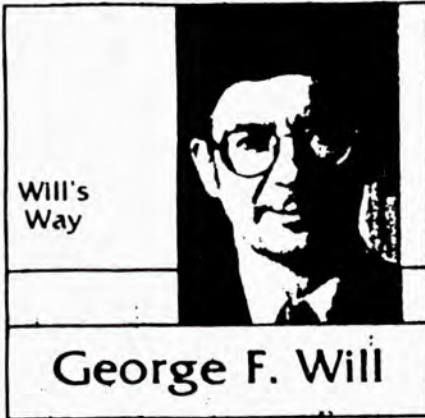
At the age of 78, Mrs. Roosevelt was indefatigable. Perhaps she sensed this would be her final trip to Israel, and

Mrs. Roosevelt even enjoyed Israeli traffic jams because 'they're a sure sign of progress.'

she wanted to crowd everything in — to see every shining face, to touch every child's hand, to visit every school, hospital and center.



Eleanor Roosevelt and Trude Feldman



Pact on trade offers more, less than promised

WASHINGTON — The fact that the North American Free Trade Agreement has caused Bill Clinton anxiety indicates why he causes anxiety: Some of his better instincts seem to flicker like candles in the wind when they conflict with the strong, steady appetites of some of his constituencies. Still, his endorsement of NAFTA — grudging and guarded though it was, and not for the right reasons — is a mildly encouraging portent of the probable Clinton presidency.

It is said that NAFTA will, if ratified, create the world's largest common market, encompassing 365 million consumers, 20 million more than the European Community. But it will not really be like the common market that now extends from Maine to California. NAFTA is not nearly as good as it's cracked up to be by its supporters because it is not what it is said to be.

It is not really a free trade agreement. In fact, a 2,000-page free trade agreement is a contradiction in terms. Twenty years ago,

N-J recommends Clinton, Graham

Clinton would put U.S. back to work

Something is happening to America that no longer can be ignored.

Flags and bunting cannot hide it from us. The easy, cynical distractions of campaign television ads cannot divert us from it. Vague reassurances and familiar nostrums have lost their power to comfort us.

The evidence is too clear, too obviously about us to be ignored.

Too many people are out of work, too many buildings are empty, too many roads are in disrepair, too many schools are overcrowded, too many families are without basic health care, too many people lack even a roof over their heads.

We see these things about us. And week after week, new statistics affirm what we see. Yet we have a president who steadfastly refuses to believe that things are off track, a president still in a state of denial.

Only a few weeks ago, President Bush blamed the media. The economy, he said, is "poised for a dramatic recovery." The economy, he insisted, is better than people think, "but the fact that they've hammered and hammered into them that things are a total disaster is influencing people's judgment."

The most prolonged period of stagnant economic growth since World War II, is, in other words, a figment of the public's imagination.

George Bush has almost stopped telling people he has a plan to turn the economy around. It's all too clear nobody can believe him anymore. Mostly he attacks his opponent and tells us things already have turned the corner. Just sit tight.

THE EDITORIALS



Gov. Bill Clinton



Sen. Bob Graham

Why We Recommend

The News-Journal editorial board makes election recommendations in an effort to provide information that isn't readily available to many voters.

The board invites candidates for an interview to learn about their character, background and opinions. Board members review files of news clippings on

the candidates' records. The board also talks to people who know the candidates.

Many voters have neither the time nor opportunity to make a thorough investigation of every candidate. Recommendation editorials are intended to give readers the benefit of the editorial board's research.

Graham has shown he's a great senator

Bob Graham has done an outstanding job during his first term in the U.S. Senate, ably balancing Florida's needs with the nation's interests.

The former two-term Florida governor has been an effective advocate for economic development, education, the environment and the elderly. His integrity, intelligence and thoughtful approach to complex issues have given him stature in Washington unusual for a freshman senator.

He is widely — and rightly — viewed as one of the Senate's rising stars.

WHILE GRAHAM SAYS his priority during a second term would be attacking federal deficit spending, he's already been working on that important goal. He recently introduced measures to trim nearly \$100 million from the federal budget.

The Miami Lakes Democrat also has pushed hard for economic development. He has worked to expand trade with Latin American and Caribbean nations and to create new jobs in Florida. To give more opportunity and hope to the unemployed, he has tried to expedite worthy public works projects once they've passed congressional muster.

Graham has been unafraid to do battle with other congressmen to see that fast-growing states such as Florida get a fairer return on tax dollars sent to Washington.

As a senator, he has been a steadfast guardian of the environment and ally of senior citizens.

IDEAS

In this exclusive interview with veteran White House correspondent Trude B. Feldman, Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton reveals his debate strategy, reflects on the persistent draft issue and gives his vision of moving America forward — with him at the helm.

Clinton: Economic recovery the first priority

By TRUDE B. FELDMAN
Of The New York Times

Q: When you debate President Bush, on which foreign policy issues will you challenge him?

A: I'll challenge his policy toward Iraq before and after the Gulf War.

For instance, he made a basic mistake in being so friendly toward Saddam Hussein, extending agricultural credits that will never be paid, providing technology which Saddam used in his weapons program, and sending signals that must have given Saddam the impression that he had a good chance to be able to invade Kuwait and get away with it — because of the way we coddled him.

That was the mistake. Then, as soon as the war was over, out of fear that Iraq would break up, we let Saddam attack the Kurds in the North and the Shiites in the South until the international press and our allies forced us to get back in and try to change it.

For the first year after the war, we were not nearly as insistent as we are now that the terms of the cease-fire resolution be observed.

Now I think we're pretty much on the right course. But we ought to work even harder to achieve some sort of arms control in the whole area of conventional arms build-up, as well as weapons of mass destruc-



humble, almost awed by the enormous responsibility I feel — not to let people down, to constantly do my best, and to make good on the mandate, if I do win.

■ Q: What sort of mandate do you want?

A: First, I want to win. You'll recall that President Kennedy only won by 110,000 votes, and as president, he still was able to command the support of a great many Americans.

Obviously, if I could win by a greater margin — that would give me and the Democratic Party a stronger mandate to enact the changes to which I'm committed.

■ Q: Do you think you will win?

A: Yes, I think I'll win, but I am not sure — in the sense of not being overconfident.

I think I'll win because my campaign stands for something bigger than me as an individual. It stands for ideas that are basically on the side of history.

I have confidence in people to recognize the need for change and my ability to bring this about.

■ Q: Why do you think there are so many misperceptions about you?

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Now I think we're pretty much on the right course. But we ought to work even harder to achieve some sort of arms control in the whole area of conventional arms build-up, as well as weapons of mass destruction.

I'll also tell Bush that he has been more than a little one-sided in his repeated criticisms of Israel when the Shamir government was pursuing a policy different from our own. Bush overdid that and could have provoked a backlash, derailing the whole peace process.

But my main problem with Bush's handling of Middle East policy is with his treatment of Iraq before and after the Gulf War, not with the war itself.

Q: Which other international issues will you include in the debate?

A: I strongly disagree with Bush on many foreign policy issues. Among those I intend to cite are Haiti, China, Japan, Asia and the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

I disagree with his whole conduct of international economic policy, and when we debate, I will be specific.

Q: What are some of the specifics?

A: The trade mission to Japan was a disaster. We really do not have a good, coherent policy toward Japan that will lead us to open markets with the Japanese and give us enough respect in their country to be real partners in a movement for global economic growth.

We have to do much, much more with regard to China. I will tell Bush that he was too easy on the Chinese and too cozy with their leaders in the aftermath of Tiananmen Square.

They now have a \$15 billion trade surplus with us, the second largest of any country. We should use our leverage to promote democracy and freedom and human rights.

Q: How do you differ with Bush's approach to human rights abroad?

A: I think he has been more concerned with maintaining the status quo and his personal relationships with foreign leaders than with being a real force for democracy.

I will point out that Bush was slow to recognize the disintegration of the central authority within the Soviet Union, slow to recognize the independence of the Baltics and slow to recognize the movement for independence in the Ukraine.

Indeed, he condemned it.

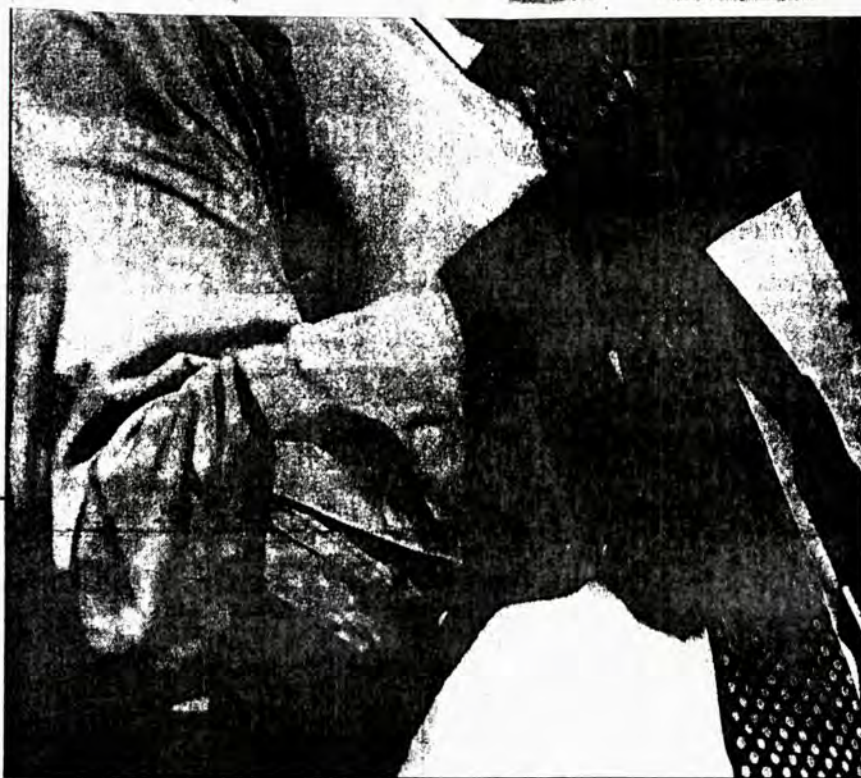
We should have been and should be fighting for democracy and human rights.

After all, the end of the bipolar world that characterized the Cold War not only gives us freedom from fear of imminent nuclear annihilation, it also imposes on us responsibilities as the world's only superpower — to really try harder to promote human rights, human freedom and the alleviation of human suffering.

Q: On which three domestic issues will you debate?

A: On jobs, on health care and on George Bush's responsibility to use the power of the presidency to solve problems.

As for jobs, we have less employment today than four years ago when Bush took office. My program will build the infrastructure and create new opportu-



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News-Journal photo by Sam Cranston

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■ **Q: Why do you think there are so many misper-
ceptions about you?**

A: It takes awhile for people to know me. Those who
don't want me to be victorious in this election have
initiated and perpetrated misperceptions about me.

Frankly, I've never been attacked in so many differ-
ent ways at the same time. I've been in public life 18
years and in tough elections.

But no one has ever made such a big deal on such
flimsy grounds as during this campaign, nor have
they questioned my personal integrity.

As a result, at first I was taken aback. Perhaps I
contributed to some of the misperceptions.

Over time, I think people see through the phony
charges. My hope is that by Election Day, enough peo-
ple will know me.

■ **Q: What about the issue of your draft defer-
ment? Are your motives now fully understood? Upon reflection, did religious considerations ever influence your decision?**

A: I thought that our policy in Vietnam was morally
flawed. I thought we were in a war we could not win,
pursuing objectives that were unattainable at a cost to
ourselves and to others that was unacceptable.

The more I knew about the war, the more wrong I
thought it was.

My feelings were, in part, a product of my own ex-
perience. I had access to information and to knowl-
edge which most people my age did not.

While a student at the School of Foreign Service at
Georgetown, I was also an employee at the Senate For-
eign Relations committee. I had to have security clear-
ance to work there.

I knew things about the war and the way it was be-
ing conducted and what was really happening there
that most men my age did not know.

This had a profound effect on me. I was raised in a
very patriotic, pro-military environment, but I was
convinced the Vietnam war was wrong.

I didn't want to do anything to dishonor my country
or myself. But I didn't want to go. That's why when I
was facing the draft I sought out the ROTC deferment.
But then, I didn't feel right about that. That's why I
went back into the draft. The facts are really simple.

I was back in the draft, and then the lottery came in
and I was not called.

■ **Q: Was conscientious objection a factor?**

A: I sympathize with conscientious objectors. But
the law on conscientious objection in our country is
that you cannot be exempt from military service for
opposition to a particular war.

You have to be opposed to all wars, and I am not.

If I had been of age in World War II, or even in Ko-
rea, I'd have been there. If I had been in the regular
service or the Reserves, or the National Guard at the
time of Desert Storm, I'd have been happy to be called
into service.

As another example, if I had been brought up in Is-
rael, I'd be glad to defend it. So I just have to answer
you that I never thought about being a conscientious
objector.

■ **Q: Do you believe that the Vietnam draft issue
reflects some divisions in our society?**

A: Absolutely. That war tore this country apart.
Those people who did not live through it — either in
Vietnam or in America — or who weren't part of my
generation cannot imagine how divisive it was.

Many people who were in the war now tell me they
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A: On jobs, on health care and on George Bush's responsibility to use the power of the presidency to solve problems.

As for jobs, we have less employment today than four years ago when Bush took office. My program will build the infrastructure and create new opportunities for increased employment.

I would encourage the creation of small businesses, the largest creator of new jobs in our system. And unlike the Bush administration, I will not encourage American businesses to transfer plants overseas.

On health care, I will tell Bush that our present system not only doesn't work, but is too expensive. It leaves some 60 million Americans without sufficient health insurance. It also bankrupts families, businesses and the federal budget.

An independent economic analysis of both our programs determined that my health programs would be more effective and less costly than is Bush's.

Concerning the president's overwhelming power, I believe Bush has not used the Oval Office to help the American people. He conducts his administration as if government creates problems instead of trying to resolve them.

He has ignored most of our problems, denied that they exist, and only, as the election neared, he started giving out money like it was going out of style, and saying whatever he thought it would take to get re-elected.

There never has been a constant, consistent, passionate theme to Bush's presidency to guide us through these troubled, changing times and help us make the most of our opportunities in the aftermath of the Cold War.

I think that's why today he is in such trouble.

Q: If you're elected president, what would be your immediate priorities?

A: I would begin with an immediate economic recovery package to get people back to work and to get incomes going up again. I would work for a comprehensive system of controlling health-care costs and providing basic health care to all Americans.

We must have a long-term economic and educational program which includes a revitalization of our cities, a new energy policy, and environmental policy that helps to promote economic growth and responsible long-term sustainable environmental policies.

These are some of the things I want to try to accomplish after I am inaugurated, and I believe I have a good chance.

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There are now a number of members in Congress who would turn this country on a dime if given the opportunity.

In January, there will be new members who will have been elected on a pledge to make changes, and I'm committed to working with them to get my programs passed.

To implement these programs, I want a staff in the White House, a Cabinet and an administration which looks like America, feels like America, and encompasses our rich diversity.

I also want an administration which makes Americans feel good about the way their government is running, and the fact that their government cares about them and is trying to make progress for them.

Q: What type of people do you want for the White House, your Cabinet and federal agencies?

A: People who are very smart, very energetic and who care about ordinary Americans. I want concerned people who are competent and have a very high sense of ethical and moral standards.

I want those who do not have personal agendas and who work to do the people's business and try to make America a better place in which to live.

I want team players who do not engage in bureaucratic games, do not stab each other in the back, do not jockey for positions in the White House, and do not leak stories to make themselves look good or someone else look bad.

Honesty and integrity are the most important traits, and I will not allow my staff to use a White House "pass" as a "license" to be arrogant or overbearing and abusive.

Q: How would you prevent scandals such as "Watergate," "Iran-Contra," "Iraqgate," Housing & Urban Development and the savings & loan, which have cost billions of dollars to taxpayers?

A: I will do what I've done as governor for 12 years, and there has never been a hint of scandal in my administration — knock on wood.

I have prided myself in running a very clean government — one that people could be proud of.

In the White House, I will set a good example. I know how power can, and often does, corrupt people, so I will select the best person for each position and keep avenues of communication open to me. We'll have the best system of checking on all matters, and should problems begin to develop, we can nip them in the bud.

Even with all my caution, I suppose, there may be pitfalls, but I surely hope not. I will be in charge of

policy and will choose a White House chief of staff to oversee all personnel and flow of work. I will insist that we all serve the people, not ourselves.

We all should have learned lessons from Watergate and how it affected the world. I will be on guard to prevent similar scandals in my administration.

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More people are unemployed or insecure in their jobs.

At least 100,000 people a month are losing health insurance. We're not competitive in education. We don't have any national economic strategy.

None of these things can be changed without real initiative and leadership from the president.

As President Kennedy once said, the White House is the vital center of action. I believe that when I'm in the Oval Office, I can change the country in a meaningful way.

You know, at first I wanted to change the Democratic Party. I wanted it to face the realities of the world as it is ... to become once again the party that was both pro business and pro labor, one that promoted economic growth and equal opportunity and one that understood (that) we had to impress upon people the need for more personal responsibility as well as the obligation of their government to create more individual opportunity.

I think I have now accomplished this, and that's why I'm getting so much Republican and independent support, even from former Ross Perot supporters.

Q: After a year on the campaign trail, what have you learned?

A: I learned that the American people have much more in common than I thought they did, and more in common than they think they do, even across racial, regional and income lines. They think more alike.

Most people are prepared to make sacrifices to get this country on the right track.

Q: And how has campaigning changed you?

A: I don't know if "change" is the right word. While I have met with some success in this campaign, I am

Bill Clinton

opposition to all wars, and I am not.
You have to be opposed to all wars, and I am not.
If I had been of age in World War II, or even in Korea, I'd have been there. If I had been in the regular service or the Reserves, or the National Guard at the time of Desert Storm, I'd have been happy to be called into service.

As another example, if I had been brought up in Israel, I'd be glad to defend it. So I just have to answer you that I never thought about being a conscientious objector.

Q: Do you believe that the Vietnam draft issue reflects some divisions in our society?

A: Absolutely. That war tore this country apart. Those people who did not live through it — either in Vietnam or in America — or who weren't part of my generation cannot imagine how divisive it was.

Many people who were in the war now tell me they understand and support me on this issue, that they know what went on, and believe that this election should focus on the future.

Even combat veterans from Vietnam concur, as did Admiral Crowe, who said it all when he endorsed me.

Q: Now that you say you've set the record straight, why not ignore the draft issue?

A: I tried that. But frequently that's all the press and my opponents ask me. For instance, some of my political opponents back home have "convenient" memories of events after 23 years.

Most of what has been alleged on the issue involves absurd accusations.

My obligation, nevertheless, is to continue to state the facts as they were. And if I become commander in chief, I hope those who voted against me because of my views on Vietnam will give me a chance to earn their respect through my efforts to provide good government.

Q: Finally, if you do win (the election), what two broad goals would you seek to achieve?

A: Well, first I'd like to inspire real hope in our youth about their future. I want to restore a sense of accomplishment to politics, not only for them, but for everyone. That is, I want people to believe that we can actually solve our problems instead of just being cynical about them.

Second, I'd like to re-establish in our country a sense of community, a sense that we're all in this together — to end the politics of division that has been practiced by the Bush administration — dividing people by race, by gender or by generation, by income or by region.

I do not like that. I like to bring people together, and I like to get things done. That's what turns me on. That's why I entered politics and that's why I want to be president of the United States.

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