

Cambodia Trip by Brother of First Lady Alarms U.S. Officials

By PHILIP SHENON

WASHINGTON, July 17 — A brother of Hillary Rodham Clinton traveled this week to Cambodia, which is in the throes of a violent election campaign, to meet with its leader and to scout out investment opportunities in a nation he praised for its "tremendous" business potential.

The visit by the brother, Anthony Rodham, only two weeks before the elections, alarmed officials at the State Department, who worried that a trip by the President's brother-in-law might be misconstrued by Cambodian voters as a sign that the Clinton Administration is endorsing Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Mr. Rodham met with the Prime Minister on Monday and, a Cambodian Government statement said, assured Mr. Hun Sen that "when he returned to the United States, he would tell Americans, especially businessmen, about the remarkable progress achieved by Cambodia."

The statement, which was read on state radio, said the First Lady's 43-year-old brother invited the Prime Minister to visit the United States "so that he could personally explain to Americans the truth about Cambodia, which is different from the picture the press has been painting." Mr. Hun Sen's Government has been harshly criticized by the United States for its human rights record.

In an interview today from his home in Washington, Mr. Rodham insisted that he had not invited Mr. Hun Sen to the United States, and he rejected any suggestion that his visit was meant to signal an American endorsement of the Cambodian leader, who ousted his co-Prime Minis-

ter, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in a bloody coup a year ago.

"I didn't show any partiality to anyone," said Mr. Rodham, a former private detective who is now a Washington-based business consultant. He said he went to Cambodia in search of investment opportunities for himself and a group of business clients he was contractually barred from identifying. "I didn't go as the brother-in-law of the President of the United States," he said. "I made it clear

A Clinton relative's visit creates a perception problem.

to everybody I spoke to that I did not represent the United States in any way, shape or form. I was looking for business opportunities."

At a news conference in Phnom Penh earlier in the week, Mr. Rodham said that he was unconcerned about any criticism of his visit.

"I'm not afraid of anyone using this against myself or my family," he said. "And I certainly hope that it will not be used for propaganda. I am not here to endorse anybody for anything in Cambodia."

He said he saw many opportunities in Cambodia. "We came to see what fits here in Cambodia, and there are many fits," he said, describing the investment opportunities there as "unique" and "tremendous."

Mr. Rodham confirmed news re-

ports today that he had stayed at a luxury hotel in Phnom Penh owned by a Cambodian businessman who is barred from entering the United States because of allegations of his involvement in narcotics trafficking. "If I had known that the man was blacklisted, I never would have stayed there," he said.

The First Lady's press office did not return repeated calls for comment on her brother's trip.

Publicly, the State Department has not criticized Mr. Rodham and has said that, as a private citizen, he has the right to travel where he wishes. "He visited Cambodia as a private citizen, not in any way as a representative of the United States Government," said James P. Rubin, the department's chief spokesman.

But other Administration officials said they were alarmed by the trip — and the impression it may have created that the Administration is rethinking its past condemnation of Prime Minister Hun Sen for the coup.

The State Department, they said, was given only one day's notice of the trip by Mr. Rodham, the younger of Mrs. Clinton's two brothers. "We were blindsided," one official said. "You can imagine how this plays: the President's brother-in-law comes to town on the eve of an election to offer praise for the thuggish Government."

Another Administration official drew "unhappy" comparisons between Mr. Rodham and Billy Carter, the brother of the former President Jimmy Carter, who came under Federal investigation in the 1970's for his ties to the Government of Libya.

Last year, Mr. Rodham acknowl-



Associated Press

Anthony Rodham, the First Lady's brother, visited Cambodia.

edged that he had been offered a six-figure payment by supporters of President Juan Carlos Wasmosy of Paraguay to arrange a White House meeting with President Clinton. Mr. Rodham told The Boston Globe, which first reported on the offer, that while he had been willing to help arrange the meeting, he would not accept a "payoff."

First lady's brother praises Cambodia

Critics see visit as helping strongman

From combined dispatches

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia — A brother of first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's has met with Cambodian strongman Hun Sen and praised the Southeast Asian nation as a "tremendous" business opportunity.

Tony Rodham's meeting with Hun Sen on Monday raised speculation that the Cambodian leader might use the presence of the president's brother-in-law to help boost his image before the legislative elections set for July 26.

Hun Sen has been heavily criticized for ousting his co-prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in a bloody coup last year.

His campaign has been marred by allegations of violence against opposition campaign workers, and American election observers yesterday characterized the campaign as "fundamentally flawed."

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) and International Republican Institute (IRI) said their pre-election assessment found "systematic and widespread political intimidation and violence [to] have affected the ability of opposition parties to fairly compete in the campaign."

The findings of the NDI and IRI are expected to weigh heavily in Washington's analysis of the election.

"The process leading up to the elections scheduled for July 26 is fundamentally flawed and under the prevailing circumstances, the delegation would not normally recommend sending observers to monitor the elections," the groups said in a joint statement.

But, the two groups said, Cambodia's opposition is "actively participating" in the election despite "serious obstacles," and the out-

come "is not a forgone conclusion."

The U.S. groups stand at odds with most members of the Joint International Observer Group (JIOG), the U.N.-coordinated team observing the elections.

IRI and NDI have refused to participate in the JIOG, which represents 34 countries including the European Union. The EU is the largest single foreign donor to the estimated \$27 million cost of the election.

Washington has said it will make its own judgment of the polls based heavily on the findings of IRI and NDI, its embassy in Phnom Penh and the 25 American JIOG observers.

At a news conference on Monday, Mr. Rodham said he and his three business associates were on a long-scheduled private trip to assess Cambodia's business climate.

Mr. Rodham called the timing of the trip a "coincidence" but said that if the three-day visit "does help promote a peaceful election process, then I consider that an added plus."

The news conference was held at a Phnom Penh hotel owned by a local businessman barred from the United States because of suspected involvement in drug trafficking. Mr. Rodham said he was unaware of the connection.

Mr. Rodham and his associates have worked together for nearly five years and have made similar exploratory trips to Kuwait, Romania and Japan, he said.

Mr. Rodham drew criticism last year after the Boston Globe reported that a Paraguayan official had offered him \$100,000 to arrange a meeting between Paraguay's leader and President Clinton. Mr. Rodham denied taking the money.

The Washington Times

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1998

PM-Cambodia-Hillary's Brother,0365

Brother of U.S. first lady meets Cambodia strongman on business trip

By ROBIN McDOWELL= Associated Press Writer=

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) The brother of first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has met with Cambodian strongman Hun Sen and praised the Southeast Asian nation as a "tremendous" business opportunity.

Tony Rodham's meeting with Hun Sen on Monday raised speculation that the Cambodian leader might use the presence of the president's brother-in-law to help boost his image in the runup to legislative elections set for July 26.

Hun Sen has been heavily criticized for ousting his co-prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in a bloody coup last year. His campaign has been marred by allegations of violence against opposition campaign workers.

At a news conference on Monday, Rodham said he and his three business associates were on a long-scheduled private trip to assess Cambodia's business climate. They wanted to see "how the group can assist in the private sector and humanitarian needs," he said.

Rodham called the timing of the trip a "coincidence" but said that if the three-day visit "does help promote a peaceful election process, then I consider that an added plus."

"We came to see what fits here in Cambodia, and there are many fits," Rodham said.

The news conference was held at a Phnom Penh hotel owned by a local businessman barred from the United States because of suspected involvement in drug trafficking. Rodham said he was unaware of the connection.

Rodham and his associates have worked together for nearly five years and have made similar exploratory trips to Kuwait, Romania and Japan, he said.

The United States has taken a critical stance on Hun Sen since he deposed Ranariddh last year, refusing to supply direct election aid to his government.

Opponents have accused Hun Sen of using violence, including murder, and fear to ensure he wins the vote.

Rodham drew criticism last year after the Boston Globe reported that a Paraguayan official had offered him \$100,000 to arrange a meeting between Paraguay's leader and President Clinton. Rodham denied taking it.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 07/14/98 at 03:57EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 07/14/98 at 05:29EDT ****

BC-CAMBODIA-RODHAM

U.S. president's brother-in-law visits Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, July 14 (Reuters) - The businessman brother-in-law of U.S. President Bill Clinton said there were unique opportunities in Cambodia and he was looking forward to working in the country after the July 26 elections.

Tony Rodham, the younger brother of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, met Cambodia's First Prime Minister Ung Huot and Second Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday during a whirlwind private visit to assess business opportunities.

Rodham told reporters the timing of his visit, less than two weeks before the general elections, was ``kind of a coincidence.'' He said he was not endorsing any candidate.

``Anyone who gets elected, we would be more than happy to work with them,'' said Rodham, who owns a private business consulting firm.

Rodham said he and two business associates travelling with him were representing various American companies hoping to invest in Cambodia. He declined to identify the firms he represented.

``I plan to come back many times. I think the economic opportunities and investment opportunities in this country are unique. They need just about everything we can provide,'' he said.

``They don't even have a Mcdonald's in Phnom Penh,'' he said, referring to the U.S. hamburger chain.

Rodham, who was due to leave Cambodia on Tuesday, did not meet deposed First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh who was ousted by Hun Sen in July last year.

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 07/13/98 at 22:43EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 07/14/98 at 05:32EDT ****

Melanne Verveer

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fyi



WHITE HOUSE WEEKLY

KING PUBLISHING GROUP • 627 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20045
Telephone: (202) 638-4260 • Telefax: (202) 662-9744 • E-mail: whitehse@kingpublishing.com

Monday, July 20, 1998

WHW Volume 19, Number 29

CAPITAL DIARY

On Overreaching: What Starr And CNN Share

BY LLEWELLYN KING

On the face of it, there is no relationship between Kenneth Starr and the Monica Lewinsky matter and CNN's embarrassment over alleged use of sarin gas on American defectors in Laos. None whatsoever.

But there is a common dynamic at work here. Call it the "prosecutorial presumption of guilt." Defendants are presumed innocent, as should be the subject of news stories. However, once the machinery of prosecution is geared up, either in law or in journalism, a presumption of guilt begins to take over.

Lawyers and journalists do not ply dissociated trades. At one end of Fleet Street in London are the Law Courts, and a few blocks from the other end is The Old Bailey—a geographic reminder of some commonality.

Journalists do, on occasion, fall in love with their stories. This appears to be the case with April Oliver and Jack Smith, the disgraced CNN producers. They protest their innocence because they believe in their innocence. But behind their story was a vast presumption that the U.S. military is capable of any evil and is in a constant state of being up to no good.

Likewise, Starr and his supporters have fallen in love with their investigation. They have promoted it to cardinal importance, worthy of pursuit no matter how many lives are ruined, or what terrible consequences it may have on the day-to-day governance of the nation.

(Continued on page 2)

Is Anthony Rodham Another Billy Carter?

BY PAUL BEDARD

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's brother Tony is the life of the family. But some think he's becoming a drag on the family too.

Once described by *The Wall Street Journal* as the "harmless first brother-in-law," Anthony D. Rodham is collecting his share of embarrassments for the first family. Now, some in the administration are wondering if it will be long before he starts brewing his own beer, à la Billy Carter, the bumbling former first brother known for his love of hops and barley, and unregistered work for foreign governments.

"It's fascinating and noteworthy that this is part of what appears to be a lengthening historical tradition of relatives" getting into trouble, said presidential scholar Stephen Hess of the Brookings Institution.

Many in Democratic circles thought it would be stepbrother Roger Clinton who would embarrass the president, but he has proved the skeptics wrong.

"I don't think Roger's been a particular embarrassment," said Hess. In fact, Roger Clinton has shucked his drug addiction to become a successful musician and father. President Clinton has even used his stepbrother's story to show that drug addicts can rehabilitate.

Instead of Roger Clinton, it has been Tony Rodham who has been in the headlines. Most recently, it was his undiplomatic comments in Cambodia,

(Continued on page 4)

Cyberterrorism: Administration Reaches Out To Private Sector

BY DAVID RUPPE

Unprecedented public and private sector cooperation will be needed to defend against future cyberterrorism and other unconventional threats to critical U.S. infrastructure, senior government officials told an American Bar Association conference in Washington, D.C., on July 15.

And the Commerce Department will become the home base for U.S. government outreach to private entities, which are estimated to own and operate about 90 percent of the critical infrastructure that keeps America's essential public services, economy and government functioning, they said.

Such infrastructures include telecommunications, banking and finance, energy, transportation, and essential government services, according to PDD-63, a presidential decision directive signed in May that ordered the strengthening of U.S. defenses against emerging critical infrastructure (CI) threats.

Many are highly vulnerable to computer terrorism by hackers over the Internet, they said. And as America's conventional military forces will likely reign supreme in the foreseeable future, a broad, coordinated attack

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On Overreaching: What Starr And CNN Share...

(Continued from page one)

Starr's defenders, mostly law professors, are in love with the law. The law, they say, was possibly violated and the charge is perjury—a very serious charge, they hasten to tell you.

To you and I not schooled in these things, the presumption is not of a serious crime but of a white lie; and a lie about sex, generally fair game for lying.

The prosecutorial persuasion even has a special verb to add gravitas to its position: to suborn. It is a word not known to most people and not understood. Fibbing when you have been caught with your pants down: That is understood.

So the public has no outrage about President Clinton's alleged escapades, but is quite outraged over the special prosecutor and his indifference to other people's lives, their frailty and their privacy.

Starr and his supporters—and let us leave aside the hyenas of the political right—are in love with their own term of legal art, subornation. They have fallen prey to their own presumption that a terrible crime has been committed; that justice has been obstructed, and that this is a massive and heinous thing.

The opinion polls suggest that the public is not with them; that the perversion of justice is that a man who was appointed to investigate a far-away land deal in Arkansas is running up the public tab, turning over stones in a private life.

Each new raft of subpoenas from Starr further alienates him from the citizenry. It is chilling to think that one can be called to account for every telephone call, every hug, every conversation and every discussion with friends. Who, they wonder, is the law protecting? Could it be protecting itself?

Clinton dealt himself the first bad hand, but can he be blamed for playing it to the best of his ability—in this case, delaying and clamming up. The president is playing for time, and he may win with time as the mid-term elections draw closer. He may have acted

recklessly and foolishly, but is it a crime for him to use such weapons—limited weapons—as are available to him to defend himself?

Starr was obviously consumed with his presumption of guilt when Linda Tripp betrayed her friend.

Likewise, April Oliver and Jack Smith—infinately more sympathetic people than Starr and Tripp—were brought up in a culture common in newsrooms, which presumed the military capable of anything. The two pursued the story they wanted to believe to the point that they believed it. They crossed over the meridian

that separates reporters from prosecutors, pressing their allegations to the point that they metamorphosed into facts in their minds.

Of course, Oliver and Smith were willingly assisted in their recklessness by a management that was hungry for a big scoop. And, surely, they had hopes of the fame and reward which others have found in the pantheon of investigative reporters.

It is a tale of two presumptions driving professionals to stretch their professions to the limit. Early in this

century, the English writer Edgar Wallace, then a reporter for *The Daily Mail*, crusaded against Lord Lever, the soap tycoon, until he fell in love with his own belief that Lever was charging so much for his soap that the poor were suffering. Lever was pilloried in *The Mail* day after day. Lever fought back, reduced the cost of soap, and sent his agents to see that the poor were washing their clothes and themselves.

But Wallace was on a roll and kept up the attack until Lever sued and Wallace was fired. Happily, Wallace went on to write more than 150 detective novels, adding vastly to the genre.

It is reasonable to believe that Oliver and Smith will produce good work over many years. And Starr? He will no doubt finally get around to teaching law. The man who thinks that the law is all might want to remind his students that Charles Dickens said "the law is a ass, a idiot."



A PRESUMING MAN

WHITE HOUSE WEEKLY

COPYRIGHT 1998 BY KING PUBLISHING GROUP

Llewellyn King, Publisher.

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$99 PER YEAR. (ISSN: 0737-9218)

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GRAPHIC PRODUCTION: Tony Campana, Bill Johnstone.

PRINT PRODUCTION: Keith Carter, Barron Chandler, Glenn White.

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U.S. shipbuilders' "charter and build" plan for Navy logistics ships could get a new lease on life if the industry enlists Vice President Al Gore's help.

Cynthia Brown, president of the American Shipbuilding Association, told *White House Weekly* that she might discuss the plan, which would allow the Navy to enter into long-term leases with support-ship firms rather than buying the vessels up front, with the vice president and Morley Winograd, Gore's senior policy adviser and director of the National Partnership for Reinventing Government.

The charter-and-build plan, Brown said, is all about "reinventing and privatizing," and Gore has been the captain of that five-year effort in the federal government. The vice president calls it "the longest-running reform effort in U.S. history."

The plan should interest Gore's reinvention crew because, as one U.S. shipbuilding industry executive put it, "call it charter and build, leasing or whatever you want, this plan is about contract reform."

Gore's National Partnership for Reinventing Government, formerly the National Performance Review, has saved the federal government a total of \$137 billion. The U.S. shipbuilders' plan is a cost-saving one for the cash-strapped Navy.

The Navy has 21 ships in its CLF fleet today that average over 30 years old, Brown said. "They're very maintenance- and manpower-intensive and they need to get replaced now. If they don't replace them, the alternative is to spend a lot of money to slip them. The Navy doesn't have to money to do so," she said. The first candidates for the leasing plan are 10 to 12 auxiliary dry cargo ships.

Under the concept, the Navy would only pay for a ship on delivery and then would pay the capital, financing and operating costs on a pro-rata basis for at least 20 years, one year at a time. The current maximum term for a ship lease is five years. The expanded commitment would give owners the incentive to make huge capital investments.

The annual funding would come from Navy operations-and-maintenance money. But each year's lease payment would still need to be authorized and appropriated by Congress.

Last year, the Navy commissioned a private group to do an economic analysis "which showed that financing these ships over a 25-year period would cost the taxpayer no more money than direct acquisition." Both the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Senate Budget Committee, which have opposed the plan, agree with the Navy analysis.

OMB and the Senate Budget asked the Navy to do another analysis of the plan's "cost savings" last year. Brown said, the U.S. shipbuilders did a study that "showed that (1) ship construction costs would be dramatically reduced because a commercial operator rather than the Navy bureaucracy would be managing the program, and (2) there would be quantity buy savings as well. Our study showed low teens to 18-percent savings in construction costs alone."

U.S. Shipbuilders May Enlist Gore In 'Charter And Build' Fight

BY LINDA GASPARELLO

The industry gave their input to the Navy. "Using very conservative data, the Navy's study said the savings in construction costs would be 6 to 10 percent," Brown said. "And neither OMB nor the budget committees argue with that study, which has now been provided to the Senate Armed Services Committee as well."

At the 11th hour last year, Brown said, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) argued with the House defense authorization bill's provision on the scoring of the plan, and it was killed in conference. The House bill gave the Navy long-term lease authority for ships built in the United States, and it directed OMB to score them as operating rather than capital leases. OMB wants to score the ships as capital leases, arguing that "they have no direct commercial use," Brown said.

OMB, Brown said, is clinging fast to "interpreted guidelines from the Budget Enforcement Act" that any time the government enters into a capital lease, it must score the budget authority for the entire period of the lease in the first year it enters that lease. But to do so nullifies part of the benefits of a charter and build" and "the scoring guidelines don't make sense."

She said: "Today, under a long-term financing lease, the Air Force is acquiring new engines to replace the KC-135 engine. They're a capital piece of equipment. However, OMB is scoring those engines as operating leases because, they say, they can be put into commercial service right away."

But Brown is "very optimistic" that charter and build, long-term lease authority which is contained in Section 1015 of the House bill will be authorized this year.

"Quite frankly, the plan has far-ranging support in the House. If you look at the House National Security Committee, it's both sides of the aisle, almost 100 percent," she said. Senators from the shipbuilding states have been supportive, especially Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Olympia Snowe (R-Me.) and Sen. Chuck Robb (D-Va.).

"Sen. Robb has been playing a role in the Armed Services Committee. It's really in the Senate Armed Services Committee right now to recede to the House provision, and I believe they will do so in conference," Brown said.

The House provision still doesn't address the scoring issue, but Brown believes that's not a big problem. "It was a two-year plan anyway. Even if scoring is addressed this year, the Navy would still have to come back next year and say, 'With his new authority we want to finance X number of ships and this is what they will cost,'" Brown said. That means that if Congress does not grant a change in the scoring this year in the authorization process, they could do so next year at the same time they authorize the ships. "It's half a loaf."

The plan, which could be worth several billion dollars for U.S. shipbuilders, would have a lot of political capital for Gore—who will be the likely Democratic nominee in the 2000 presidential election—especially in California. Brown said with glee: "Yes. Jobs!"

Is Tony Rodham Another Billy Carter?... (From page one)

where he toured last week on a private business trip.

After meeting with strongman Hun Sen, condemned by the administration for his bloody coup last year, Rodham told reporters that the beleaguered nation, which faces elections this month, is a "tremendous" business opportunity.

"We came to see what fits here in Cambodia, and there are many fits," said Rodham in a Phnom Penh hotel owned by a local businessman barred from the United States for his suspected involvement in drug trafficking.

The United States has criticized Hun Sen for using violence, including murder, to win his election. Also, the United States has refused to supply direct election aid to his government.

Rodham has made similar business trips to Japan, Kuwait and Romania.

At the White House, aides scrambled to duck questions about the trip. One shook his head when asked about the trip, repeatedly declaring that Rodham's was "a private trip, a private trip. We had nothing to do with it."

Rodham hasn't held many steady jobs recently, acting mostly as a Democratic consultant and Miami private eye. For example, he won \$70,000 in salary and fees serving as an "outreach director" for the Democratic Party in 1996, the year of President Clinton's re-election.

As part of his role in the Democratic Party, Rodham has served as a golfing ambassador, traveling to golf matches around the country to help raise money. He also golfs often with the president, as does Hillary Clinton's other brother, Hugh.

Tony Rodham also served as Hugh's campaign manager when he ran for the U.S. Senate in Florida against popular Republican Sen. Connie Mack.

The well-liked Rodham also became the first presidential relative since Tricia Nixon to be married in the White House, placing a wedding band on Nicole Boxer, daughter of Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), in the Rose Garden.

But the lovable side of Tony Rodham was clouded in early 1997, when *The Boston Globe* revealed that he had been offered over \$100,000 to facilitate a meeting between Paraguayan President Jan Carlos Wasmosy and the president.

The payoff attempt came in a 1995 breakfast business meeting in Miami. Rodham said he would have been happy to arrange a meeting, but changed his mind when the payoff was offered.

While not recalling who made the payoff attempt, Rodham said: "They wanted to pay me off, and you just don't pay me off." Explaining the meeting, he said: "I was just sitting there chatting. They asked me if I could make an introduction of their president to President Clinton. I saw nothing wrong

with that. But then someone jumped in and tainted the deal by offering a lot of money."

He never reported the event to the White House or legal authorities.

After the initial *Globe* report, however, a lawyer who was at the Miami meeting charged that Rodham offered to use his family connections to arrange a White House invitation for Wasmosy. The lawyer, John H. Tonelli, called Rodham an influence peddler, charges Rodham subsequently denied to *The Globe*.

"That's wrong," Rodham said.

Rodham's problems, while not attracting the attention of legal authorities, have prompted some to recall the problems Billy Carter had when he became a semi-lobbyist and consultant. His problems, however, were much more serious and his failure to register as a foreign agent for Libya led to an investigation.

Other presidents have had their "black sheep" in the family, noted Hess. Former President Bush, for example, was beset with criticism when his son Neil was linked to a Colorado bank failure. Lyndon Johnson tried to keep his brother quiet. Carter also had a sister who claimed to be a soothsayer. And even Richard Nixon had a problem with his brother Don's links to Howard Hughes.

"Every president comes with a family and most families have at least one black sheep. And it's fascinating how regularly this occurs," said Hess.

But, he added, Rodham is "the first time we've had in-laws once-removed" in the mix.

Paul Bedard is chief White House correspondent for *The Washington Times*.

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Administration Reaches Out To Private Sector...

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against CI in a time of crisis would be an attractive option for future aggressors against the United States, according to Richard Clarke, President Clinton's senior director and national coordinator for Security, Critical Infrastructure, and Counterterrorism.

Over 95 percent of Pentagon telecommunications traffic travels over commercial systems, experts say. "There's a giant tsunami about to crash down behind us," Clarke told the conference. "I would rather we respond before an electronic Pearl Harbor. Be ahead of the power curve."

Mistrust

But mistrust of the federal government, and concerns about propriety information, could make cooperation challenging, according to Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration Bill Reinsch.

"The people we are going to be dealing with are all private parties, many with a long history of lack of engagement with the federal government, if not suspicion...There are a big chunk of people [we'll deal with] that don't spend a lot of time with the government, don't want to, and don't see government as their friend," he said.

"In encryption, we called this the 'California phenomenon,'" Reinsch said. "They are far away from Washington geographically and psychologically, and want to keep it that way."

A major goal of the PDD-63 effort is to get the public and private sectors to share information quickly on attacks as they occur. By doing so, for instance, a cyber attack disrupting one economic sector, if identified quickly, could be isolated, and corresponding attacks against other sectors repelled. Another goal is for greater technological cooperation on defeating computer attacks.

Companies are concerned that proprietary business interests could be jeopardized by information sharing, according to Reinsch, and so a level of trust must be established.

That may be why Commerce was chosen. For several years, the department has worked closely with industry to find a way to reconcile the

government's aim to control encryption technology for security concerns and industry's desire to remain competitive with foreign encryption suppliers.

The administration "came to the conclusion that the people of the federal government best equipped to deal and have interaction with these people are the civil agencies and Commerce," Reinsch said.

"We will be the home in a metaphysical though not in a physical sense to the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office," he said, and will be involved in a lot of related R&D activities. "We view the private sector as a customer...we have a kind of relationship with them already and hope we can turn it to these issues."

Clarke said Washington will have to play a different role than it is used to. "We don't know all of the answers. We do know the nature of the threat, and what a national plan should look like."

Funding Support?

This focus on defending critical infrastructure is part of more general, growing attention in Washington to the vulnerability of the U.S. homeland to terrorism and the possibility that homeland terrorist attacks will increase in frequency and sophistication.

Interest culminated in May, with Clinton signing PDD-63, and its sister PDD-62, which called for a systematic, national approach to dealing with terrorism involving weapons of mass destruction. Both initiatives are directed by Clarke, at the National Security Council, whose job is to coordinate the policies and efforts of numerous federal agencies with state, local and private-sector entities that play a role in homeland defense.

Executing PDD-63 under Clarke is the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office (CIAO) headed by Jeffrey Hunker, a former Commerce official. PDD-63 directs that by the end of 2000, the United States should have "initial operating capability"

and by May 2003 shall have the ability to protect critical infrastructures. Reinsch and Hunker said they haven't quite captured Congress's attention on the issue yet, at least not enough to fund the CIAO. "We've been talking to Congress about it and seen a lot of sympathy from Congress but, so far, no money," Reinsch said.

About \$6.6 million would be needed to run the CIAO in fiscal 1999 and \$12.4 million for the program overall that year, Reinsch said. A fairly small amount by federal government standards. Some funding was contained in the fiscal 1999 House defense appropriations bill, but pulled out by the rules committee. "There are other ways to cover that," Reinsch said.

There may be some debate about the urgency of the threat to national security. Last October, a 100-page declassified report by a presidential commission of government and industry experts found no evidence of an "impending cyber attack which could have a debilitating effect on the nation's critical infrastructures."

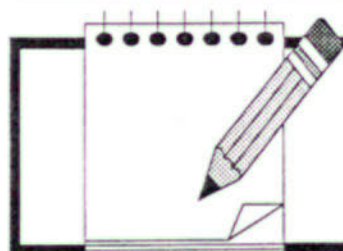
Though it did find a widespread and growing capability to exploit U.S. infrastructure vulnerabilities, from the recreational hacker to organized criminals, terrorists, and hostile states.

Clarke argued the absence of a visible threat can be deceiving. Because of the nature of the threat, "it is very difficult to know how far advanced is an enemy's planning capability," he told the conference. "We're forced to look at not what the threat is, but what our vulnerabilities are."

The Year 2000 problem will provide "a little help in our public awareness program," he said.

"We don't know all of the answers. We do know the nature of the threat, and what a national plan should look like."

—RICHARD CLARKE



Reporter's Notebook

Secret Service Secrets...Here's one you haven't heard. Current Secret Service Director Lewis C. Merletti was the head agent at the time when Monica Lewinsky was making her visits to the Oval Office. President Clinton rewarded his service with an unusual elevation to be director of the agency, angering many in the Secret Service because he skipped over several others. Another Clinton detail chief, David Carpenter, has been rewarded for his service by winning a rare appointment as head of security at the State Department. It's all reminiscent of the success Clinton had in rewarding his Arkansas State Police troopers for a job well done, according to those who watched him in Little Rock. Agents have begun a whisper campaign against Merletti, claiming that he was rewarded for keeping quiet about the president's private time and fighting Lewinsky prosecutor Kenneth Starr's efforts to depose Clinton agents. One agent told us that Merletti is especially anxious to bar agents from revealing what they saw on closed-circuit cameras in the West Wing.

Burning Bridges...A normal person would think "enough already" with all the stories condemning former *Time* White House correspondent Nina Burleigh's story that she wanted to have sex with the president. But now comes another story by her explaining that other women should too. Buried deep in *The New York Observer* last week, she said: "It's our patriotic duty!" Is this woman crazy? It seems so. Just consider what she said about the newspaper she might think of applying to in the future—*The Washington Post*—and Howard Kurtz, the paper's media critic who wrote about her offer of oral sex to the president. "Many are the dinner discussions I've had with pious *Washington Post* reporters that ended in screaming matches about reportorial objectivity. More than any other journalists I've met, *Post* reporters like Mr. Kurtz hold fast to the notion that they are personally capable of what I consider to be only a Platonic ideal. I refuse to believe that any human being is capable of the kind of android-like unbiased observational qualities that *Post* reporters say they possess."

Strange Times...It's getting weird in the White House press briefing room. Just ask press secretary Michael McCurry. As McCurry was moving through the normal list of moderately interesting subjects on a Friday, he was stumped by local radio personality Lester Kinsolving, who sought answers to two burning media issues: former Maryland Gov. William Donald Schaefer's bid to be the state's comptroller and former *Time* reporter Nina Burleigh's announcement that she wanted to have sex with the president. Bellowed the reporter: "At the top of page one of both of Washington's daily newspapers, as well as *The Baltimore Sun* this morning, is Maryland Governor Glendening's snubbing of his predecessor, Governor Schaefer, and how his sudden abandonment of former Congressman Barnes in favor of the snubbed Schaefer [to be comptroller]. And my question is, is the presi-

dent, as titular leader of the Democratic Party, also aware that the day after Glendening appointed Barnes as controller, he told an open meeting in Towson that Barnes was his 7,399th choice. And does the president believe that Ph.D.-in-Political-Science Glendening handled this effectively, or not?" To laughter, McCurry said: "Not having a Ph.D. in Political Science myself, I know that the proper answer to that is that the president is well aware of political developments. But on a matter sensitive and local, and well within the capacity of Maryland Democratic officials to resolve, he will leave their decision-making to their good wisdom and judgment." Wanting more, Kinsolving pressed on. "I have just one follow-up. Baltimore's Mayor Schmoke was asked at a news conference yesterday if he had ever had a *Time* magazine lady reporter express interest in being ravished by him, and what advice he had for the president in how to handle this problem. And he said, and this is a quote: 'Not during my administration and my only advice to the president is, let your press secretary handle it.' " Having heard enough, McCurry said: "Ladies and gentlemen of America, welcome to the White House briefing room. You may find it surprising, but we have questions like this on and off every day of the week. This is what we kind of do here. It may seem quite absurd to you who are tuned into watching this, but this is what we do." Kinsolving then said: "Since there have been listeners who have seen you on C-SPAN and other places, and they contend that you are more alluring than the president, I'm wondering if any *Time* reporters have made any such suggestions to you, and how did you handle them? I mean, the suggestions." Not to be outdone, McCurry said: "Don't ask, don't tell. That's a good answer."

Snail Golf...The big joke during the Bush years was how fast President Bush could play a round of golf. His record was about 90 minutes, aided by a golf cart and refusal to chit-chat during his game. President Clinton, on the other hand, plays pokey golf. It usually takes him four or five hours to play a round, which may be bad news to anybody planning to follow him on the links. Just this month, for example, he traveled to the Robert Trent Jones course in Manassas, Va., for a game and dinner. He left the White House at 11:35 a.m. and didn't return until 7:40 p.m. Of course, on that day, his aides were complaining that Congress wasn't working hard enough on the domestic agenda.

Wake Up...Is Al Gore and his staff trying to act like Dan Quayle and his old staff? Here's one example. One of our reporters last week received a "media advisory" from Gore press aide David Y. Stevens announcing an event for Tuesday, July 14, during which the vice president planned to make some comments on global warming. This is one of Gore's biggest issues and his press office was trying to get as many reporters in the room as possible. One problem: It came a day late. Worse, on the fax cover sheet, Stevens even wrote the sending date 7/15/98 for the 7/14/98 event.

'Five Rules' To Giving Dems A Majority In Congress

With a nod from President Clinton, Al From, head of the centrist Democratic Leadership Council, has put out five rules Democrats must follow to regain control of the House and Senate.

But From warned that success probably won't come this year. In fact, he has told members, the current moderate successes Clinton has collected will probably help Republicans.

"Democrats are unlikely to complete the trek back to majority status this year, but they can make solid gains if they learn from the president's experience in winning back the White House after a long Democratic losing streak," said From, whose five rules are meant for the long haul.

"Returning to majority status will be a long journey for Democrats. But if we have the discipline and perseverance to heed these five rules—even with expediency beckons another course—I have no doubt we will outlast the Republicans' short-term incumbency," he said.

The five rules are:

- First, "values and ideas matter." He urged Democrats to build a broad message grounded in values and ideas instead of playing to special interests.
- Second, he said: "Don't forget the fundamentals." In other words, focus on key issues such as education, crime, welfare and fiscal discipline.
- Third, "to build a majority, Democrats have to unite those who are in the middle class and struggling to stay there with those aspiring to get there."
- Fourth, he said: "We need to appeal to the electorate as it is, not as it was." Now, voters are smarter, more are female, more live in the suburbs, and fewer are union members. "There will be no enduring majority in our future if we construct a coalition of the past."
- Finally, he said: "Good government is the best politics."

NEWS BYTES

Clinton Race Critic Raps Shift From Creating Color-blind Society

President Clinton's Initiative On Race, the so-called race panel, has called on the president to focus on eliminating racial stereotypes before moving ahead with creating a color-blind society.

That move has been applauded as sensible by minorities who believe that whites hold stereotypes even while calling themselves color-blind. But chief Clinton race critic, Ward Connerly, has blasted the president for abandoning his goal.

Connerly, chairman of the American Civil Rights Institute, said: "It comes as no surprise that the Clinton race panel is recommending that Americans abandon the goal of a color-blind society."

President Clinton has surrounded himself with advisers who believe that race matters. However, the American people believe and the Constitution demands that government treat all people equally, regardless of race, gender or ethnicity. Moreover, racial and ethnic categories are becoming more and more blurred as Americans socialize, date and marry across racial and gender lines.

Connerly chaired the successful 1996 California effort to eliminate racial and gender preferences, especially in state schools. The White House, however, said that the president isn't abandoning his goal, only moving to tailor it to the current needs of identifying stereotypes.

House Seeks Repeal Of Magaziner Appeal

The House Ways and Means Committee has called on the White House to withdraw its appeal of a \$285,864 fine in the drawn-out health care task force suit. The committee also asked President Clinton to order former health care policy director Ira C. Magaziner to stop his appeal.

Chairman Bill Archer (R-Texas) said it was wrong for Clinton to justify the administration's role in the suit to keep secret efforts to reform health care in 1993 while seeking a "Patient's Bill of Rights" to make doctors reveal their finances.

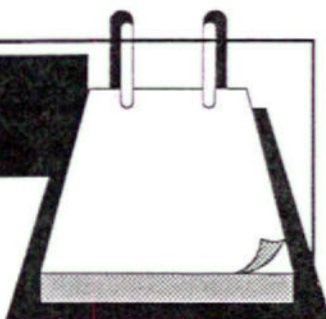
"The administration's support of a patient's right to health care information will ring hollow so long as the White House pursues its appeal in the Magaziner case. How can the administration justify one standard for the White House while pursuing another standard for the public," Archer asked in a letter to Clinton.

The White House, however, rejected the House committee's demand and pushed ahead with its appeal. Both the administration and Magaziner filed their formal appeal brief last week, claiming that District Court Judge Royce C. Lamberth wrongly punished the administration for its role in the health care scandal. Last December, Lamberth ended the case when he determined that Magaziner lied in the case, and that the White House and Justice Department engaged in a "dishonest...cover-up" to hide the fact that special interests were involved in drawing up the ill-fated 1993 health care insurance reform package championed by the first lady.

In the briefs, the White House and Justice were especially harsh in their description of Lamberth, who was described as an emotional Clinton critic. The Justice brief said, "the District Court's decision accuses senior presidential adviser Ira Magaziner, as well as the government's attorneys, of dishonesty and bad-faith conduct, essentially on the basis of a single sentence in a declaration filed [by Magaziner] at the beginning of this long-running and hard-fought litigation. As the court recognized, such serious charges must be supported by clear and convincing evidence. They are not."

In the case, a doctor's group claimed that the first lady's health care task force and working group was meeting in secret in violation of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which demands open meetings if non-government workers are on the panel. Magaziner said the group was made up of government workers, despite the fact that several outsiders and special-interest representatives held top jobs on the larger working group. Since that fact was never corrected, Lamberth rebuked Magaziner and ordered the White House to pay the legal fees of the doctor's group.

White House Diary



Sunday, July 12

The White House issued a statement in which President Clinton expressed his sadness with the deaths of three Catholic children in a Northern Ireland bombing. "The president was deeply saddened by the deaths last night of three innocent children in a sectarian attack in Northern Ireland. In recent weeks, the people there, of both traditions, have expressed their belief in peace. However, extremists continue to try to drag Northern Ireland back into a cycle of violence...the promise of peace is best achieved through dialogue and reconciliation," he said.

Monday, July 13

At the National Museum for American History, President Clinton and the first lady kicked off her National Treasures Tour by announcing a program to restore the original Star Spangled Banner, which inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the national anthem. "You can neither honor the past, nor imagine the future, nor achieve it without the kind of citizenship embodied by all of our memories of the flag," said Clinton. In a statement, Clinton welcomed the decision by the International Monetary Fund to give more cash to Russia. "A stable, democratic and prosperous Russia is a vital U.S. national interest." Clinton proclaimed the 50th anniversary of integration of the armed services. In the evening, Clinton spoke to "New Democrats" at the Sheraton Carlton Hotel. He told the fund-raiser that "I'm not sitting in the sun here. We've got an agenda," he vowed. "We have lots of big things to do." Clinton named Karl J. Sandstrom as commissioner of the Federal Election Commission, and named Christopher W.S. Ross to the rank of ambassador.

Tuesday, July 14

At the National Academy of Sciences, President Clinton said the government is moving on time to fix the Year 2000 computer bug but warned that all was not well with small companies, towns and counties, and international financial and transportation agencies. In a statement, Clinton raised concerns about appropriations legislation that trims some of his education goals. In a letter to Congress, Clinton reported on his federal advisory committees, noting the total number has declined. He sent to Congress a report on the Comprehensive National Energy Strategy. Clinton named Charles R. Rawls as general counsel at Agriculture and nominated George M. Staples as ambassador to Rwanda.

Wednesday, July 15

President Clinton spoke to the American Medical Association and conducted a roundtable on his proposal for a Patient's Bill Of Rights. "For me, this is about even more than health care. This is about how people feel about America." At the White House, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala decried a Republican alternative announced that morning, claiming, "It's too little, too late." In a letter to Congress, Clinton said he was worried about farm losses and had ordered the Agriculture Department to

boost farm supports. In Presidential Determination 98-33, Clinton announced a nuclear energy deal with Romania. It came after a meeting in the Oval Office between the president and Romanian President Emil Constantinescu, who focused mostly on expanding NATO to his country. Clinton issued a statement on the "key indicators of well-being" for children. In a statement, the White House noted Russian steps to reveal missile transfers by state enterprises, and the United States said it would stop relations with agencies and firms on the Russian list. In the evening, Clinton hosted an empowerment zone reception on the South Lawn. He used the reception to call for another round of tax breaks to create empowerment zones. Clinton named John J. Pikarski Jr. to the board of directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corp.

Thursday, July 16

President Clinton traveled to Capitol Hill to urge Democrats to pass his Patient's Bill of Rights. In a statement, Clinton said he had signed H.R. 3130, the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998. In a statement, Clinton said he was notifying Congress of his decision to suspend for another six months the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act allowing U.S. nationals to file suit against foreign firms trafficking in confiscated properties in Cuba. In a letter to House and Senate members, Clinton explained his actions regarding Cuba. In the evening, Clinton spoke at the Democratic National Committee Jefferson Trust Dinner at the home of Cynthia Friedman. Clinton nominated John D. Hawke Jr. as comptroller of the currency and John Melvin Yates as ambassador to Cameroon.

Friday, July 17

At the Old Executive Office Building, President Clinton told the Girls Nation of his plans to publicize tobacco company documents and decried a judge's criticism of his effort to block Secret Service testimony in the Lewinsky affair. In a letter to the Department of Health and Human Services, he ordered the release of the tobacco papers. Clinton then traveled to Little Rock, Ark., for a weekend of golfing and fund-raising. There, he announced a state visit Sept. 15-18 of Czech President Vaclav Havel. In a letter to Congress, Clinton reported Albanian compliance with emigration rules. In a letter to Congress, Clinton discussed the problems in Yugoslavia. Clinton named Romulo L. Diaz Jr. as assistant administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency; Charles Fox as assistant administrator at EPA and Patricia T. Montoya as commissioner on Children, Youth and Families at HHS.

Saturday, July 18

In Little Rock, Ark., President Clinton used his weekly radio address to discuss efforts to help farmers hurt by the summer's drought.

A dog star in the White House

Clinton's new friend could be a best friend

By Carrie Hedges
USA TODAY

Make no bones about it: President Clinton's decision to adopt a 3-month-old chocolate Labrador puppy will be good for his image, one historian says.

"This is a good political move," says Roy Rowan, author of *First Dogs: American Presidents and Their Best Friends*. "It makes a president seem more human. And there are 54 million dog owners in the United States, and they can all identify with a president who has a dog."

White House spokesman Mike McCurry has offered a different reason for Clinton's decision to supple-

ment Socks, the family's cat.

"It's the president's desire to have one loyal friend in Washington," McCurry said this week.

The yet-to-be named male dog is being housetrained and will move into the White House after the holidays. The dog is owned by Tony Harrington, a friend of Clinton's. McCurry said Clinton took two introductory walks with the dog on Friday and "bonding occurred."

The last dog in the White House was the Bush family's Millie, who became a household name. Millie's Book, written by Barbara Bush, was a 1990 best-seller. Millie died May 19.

Almost every president has owned at least one dog, Rowan says. George Washington had 36.

"It has been said that the Oval Office is the loneliest place in the world," Rowan says. "Having a dog

there can be therapeutic."

History shows that dogs can make a president more likable.

Franklin Roosevelt's beloved Scottish terrier, Fala, got as much mail as he did. Dour Herbert Hoover won sympathy by handing out a photo of him smiling and holding the paws of his German shepherd, King Tut.

In 1952, Vice President Richard Nixon used his cocker spaniel, which had been a gift, to deflect criticism that he accepted illegal gifts. While answering reporters' questions, Nixon held Checkers up to TV cameras and said, "The kids love the dog and we're going to keep it."

"That appealing scene defused the whole issue," Rowan says.

Clinton's last dog, Zeke, a blond cocker spaniel, was run over by a car and killed while Clinton was governor of Arkansas.



New pal: President Clinton snuggles puppy, a chocolate Labrador retriever.

The Reliable Source

By Annie Groer and Ann Gerhart

Name That Presidential Puppy

All together now:
Awwwwwwww.
Yep, the pup sure is cute. But if he's gonna come when he's called, the president's new chocolate-colored Labrador needs a name. This being a democracy, we wanted to let readers Name That Dog, and the White House said yesterday that President Clinton was willing to listen to his constituents on this important issue. Just don't expect him to seek Senate ratification.

Insiders already have floated "Shoes" as a bookend to Socks, but that name produced groans, said spokesman Joe Lockhart. The rambunctious 3-month-old came for a White House visit last Friday, and the president spent part of the afternoon romping on the grounds with the puppy. The Nameless One won't settle in permanently until he is housebroken.

In the meantime, send your suggestions to Name That Dog, in care of The Reliable Source, The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071 or by e-mail via the Internet to source@washpost.com. The deadline is Monday. We'll publish the most clever and apt names next week.



The Washington Post

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1997

INSIDE THE BELTWAY

By John McCaslin

Going (Arm)strong

First, conservative radio talk-show host Rush Limbaugh branched out to do a television show as well. Now Washington's own Armstrong Williams is following suit.

The Cannell Distributing Co., a TV-syndication firm based in Los Angeles, is offering a 30-minute "strip" of "The Armstrong Williams Show" to local stations nationwide.

Cannell Distributing President Pat Kenney said the black conservative radio personality offers a unique cultural perspective.

"He is saying what middle America really thinks, including middle-class blacks," Mr. Kenney told Electronic Media. "He has an approach that is contrary to what many people anticipate as, generally, African-American liberalism."

The show will be based out of the nation's capital. Check your local listings.

Like Millie, like Socks

Last week, we reported that Rep. Dan Burton, Indiana Republican, wrote to President Clinton after reading in The Washington Times that first cat Socks needed a staff to answer all of his mail.

"Who pays for the postage?" the lawmaker asked Mr. Clinton, and "stationery, envelopes, and any other items?"

Our item was picked up by other news outlets, from the Chicago Tribune to German television, where we were told it led one newscast. Smelling a mouse around Socks, the White House sprang into action, mailing Mr. Burton — and faxing Inside the Beltway — a two-page response.

"Like Millie, President and Mrs. Bush's dog, Socks has generated mail because he belongs to the First Family," Mr. Clinton's special assistant and director of correspondence and presidential messages, James A. Dorskind, informed the congressman.

Mr. Dorskind then disclosed



Socks' correspondence with his admirers costs U.S. taxpayers about \$6,400 a year.

that in the past two years, Mr. Clinton and his family, including the cat, have received an average of about 417,000 letters a month.

"Some writers, especially children, have addressed their letters directly to Socks, who has received an average of about 1,350 cards and letters a month," he said.

Everyone who writes Socks, the White House aide continued, receives a postcard back "from" him, paid for with public funds. Mr. Dorskind said the average cost per year for materials and postage in responding to mail addressed to Socks "has been approximately \$6,400."

If you think that makes the Clinton family extravagant, Mr. Dorskind reminded the congressman that when Millie brought puppies into the world, the Bushes went so far as to prepare cards with "paw prints" of not only Millie, but also each of the six pups, "as well as the signatures of President and Mrs. Bush."

Like Bob, like Ray

The spirit of recently retired House Minority Leader Bob Michel lives on in one Capitol Hill office more than any other — that of Rep. Ray LaHood, Illinois Republican and, until he ran for Congress, chief of staff to Mr.

Michel.

"It sure makes the transition easier," Mr. LaHood's administrative assistant, Diane Liesman, told us yesterday.

Ms. Liesman should know. She was executive assistant to Mr. Michel before joining the staff of her old colleague-turned-congressman, Mr. LaHood, who took over Mr. Michel's seat.

Discussing the similarities between old and new, Ms. Liesman said the 18th District offices in Illinois have remained virtually intact. Likewise, the district offices are manned "by some of the same people" who previously worked for Mr. Michel.

Since defeating Democrat G. Douglas Stephens in November, the 49-year-old Mr. LaHood has had no problems maneuvering about Congress, where he was already a familiar face. Recently, the freshman congressman was appointed to two powerful committees, the Agriculture Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

But as Ms. Liesman noted, the departure of Mr. Michel has left a definite void, from the 18th District to Capitol Hill. "He was a tremendous congressman and leader," she said, "and it will be a long time before anyone is able to fill his shoes."

No tough lie

Remember former White House administrator David Watkins, the lifelong friend of President Clinton from Hope, Ark., who resigned hours after an investigation was launched into why he took the president's helicopter for a golf outing in nearby Frederick, Md.?

The Washington Golf Monthly now reports in its just-released January-February issue that Mr. Watkins has landed a cushy job as senior executive vice president of investor relations for Callaway Golf.

"Had it not happened as it did," Mr. Watkins told the magazine, "I would probably not be here today. And this is terrific."

The Washington Times FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1995

New
Please call Jim
Dorskind or Mike - did
he talk to this paper
or did paper get a copy
of a letter he sent
to Rep Burton.
Lester

South Middlesex/Somerset

Contact Charles Paolino,
metro editor, at (732) 246-5500,
Ext. 7251, for local coverage.

LOCAL REPORT

Neighbors	B5
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Chelsea's precious promise

I ran into Chelsea Clinton at the beach this summer.

No kidding. There she was, the first daughter, on my stretch of sand on Rehoboth Beach in Delaware. She had just graduated from Sidwell Friends School, and she and her classmates were spending the week there with the rest of us June bugs.

I was stunned. Chelsea Clinton was literally two blankets away. She was amid an energetic group of teen-agers, wearing a simple black bikini and a

white painter's cap. She was pale and applying sun-screen.

She went swimming in the cold surf, came out and wrapped herself in a no-nonsense towel striped

in pink, white and green, and walked off the sand.

I was impressed not only with Chelsea's unpretentious beach towel, but with her willingness to mingle with the rest of us. I was proud, too, of our reaction. The entire beach was abuzz, but no one bothered her. She was on vacation, and we let her be.

Of all the things wrong with kids today, Chelsea Clinton seems to embody none of them.

She is a ballerina with enough talent to perform in the Washington Ballet's "Nutcracker." She is intelligent enough to chat with Nelson Mandela.

She is confident, poised and graceful. According to George magazine, she is precociously intelligent, a vegetarian, and plans to study pediatric cardiology at Stanford University.

And, at 17, she stands up straight, keeps her hair out of her eyes and doesn't wear too much makeup.

Whatever else you may say about Hillary and Bill, they've obviously done the right thing with their only child. Chelsea Clinton is no Amy Carter or Tricia Nixon.

Which perhaps explains some of our national attraction to her. How does one raise a polite, respectable teenager in the '90s? How does one do it in the fish bowl that is the White House?

I hoped that Chelsea had a good time at the beach — it's such a normal teen-age activity that I was glad she was able to do it. But I worried as well. Was she safe? Could the Secret Service really secure the beach and boardwalk? What if there was a sniper atop Funland?

Last week, the entire nation had the occasion to worry about the safety of Chelsea Clinton. Vladimir Zelenkov of Elizabeth was charged with trying to make unwanted contact with Chelsea and with keeping an unauthorized gun in a safe-deposit box a block from the White House.

Zelenkov reportedly wrote letters to Chelsea, ordered her a subscription to National Geographic and sent her money for her birthday. His lawyer says he's simply in love.

Zelenkov is locked up now in the Union County Jail in lieu of \$500 bail; he's been charged with motor-vehicle violations. Union County authorities said yesterday that Zelenkov also sent threatening letters to a former acquaintance. Meanwhile, Assistant U.S. Attorney Terry Keaney plans to take the gun charge to a grand jury, and a federal detainer has been filed against Zelenkov with immigration authorities. This doesn't sound like love to me.

Chelsea Clinton has proven she is more than simply the daughter of our president. Amid the hard-bitten hopelessness that seems to engulf her peers, Chelsea remains a teen-ager with hope. For women, she represents the first generation that actually has the chance to start on equal footing. She is charming, attractive, confident and intelligent. The promise that is Chelsea Clinton is a promise that belongs to all of us.

The thought that someone might so easily threaten that promise chills me to the core.

Teresa Klink is managing editor of The Home News & Tribune. Tia Swanson, whose column regularly appears Thursdays, is on vacation.



TERESA KLINK

Kathleen A. Hauke
456 McGill Place
Atlanta, GA 30312-1070



June 11, 1997

Chelsea Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Chelsea, or Whoever Opens the Mail,

I was looking for something else in old Editor and Publishers and my eye fell upon the fact that there was a Chelsea Clinton News before there was a Chelsea Clinton. That is prophetic thinking!

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Hauke
Kathleen A. Hauke

N.Y. Weeklies

(Continued from page 46)

ated columns by Raymond Moley and Thomas Collins and cartoons by Pat Oliphant.

The weekly's offices, located under a bowling alley on East 14th Street, has its own printing equipment. The make-up tables are from the old *Brooklyn Eagle*; the chases from the *New York Times* and the late P.M. Press work is jobbed out.



Abortion: The Church and the Law

A Liberal Turn

The 7,500-paid, 12-page tab *West Side News* is far cry from the paper Hagedorn founded in 1946 and even the one the present owners were publishing two months ago.

According to Neighborhood Publishing Inc., which operates it, when they purchased the *News* in 1964, it had been for years "a regular Democratic sheet, tied up with the local chamber of commerce, and pitched mainly to the upper middle-class Jewish families on Riverside Drive and West End Avenue. It carried all the regular club and social items typical of smalltown weeklies."

Neighborhood Publications, the collective name of 30 young reform Democrats in the community, merged the *West Side News* with the *Morningsider*, a militantly liberal crusading weekly circulating around Columbia University. The *West Side News*, which only went to 96th Street, expanded its coverage up to the Columbia University area (Morningside Heights) and began publishing social action stories on poverty, civil rights and local political fringe groups. It picked up where the *Morningsider* left off on dogging Columbia University's relations with the community-at-large.

Stan Cohen, who edited the *Riverdale Press* in the Bronx and once taught Philosophy at Hunter College, is the editor.

10-Cents Worth

About two months ago, the weekly took a sharp turn into a news format and approach. "We were still a smalltown weekly newspaper," publisher Jack Banning explained, "but this didn't work. It wasn't the right way to approach our audience on the West Side."

"They weren't smalltown people. They read the *New York Times* and *New Republic*. They travelled the world. What did they care about a neighborhood boy being bar mitzvahed?"

"Stan Cohen and I tried to figure out what kind of paper we would pay 10 cents for. We felt we both were representative of the art-conscious activist community on the West Side."

The front page was changed from a straight tabloid to a tricky quarter-fold taken up completely with an original piece of art on some social or political theme.

The back page was given over to one story on such topics as abortion and the church; the CIA on the Columbia Campus; the draft and college grade lists; peace demonstrations; how city judges were picked.

Religious news was dropped, the small community items were dropped, inside page stories were given fuller treatment.

"We went looking for writers that people would want to read," Banning says. "Lincoln Center is here and we're probably the biggest arts-oriented community in the country since it was built."

"We also went looking for stories the dailies weren't covering in depth. Welfare on the West Side as it affected a community such as ours. We decided to comment on the news within the news stories themselves—taking a position while still being as objective as possible."

More Letters

Cohen works with an assistant editor and two part-time reporters, in addition to contributing columnists and feature writers.

Banning claims the new approach is getting good reader response as evidenced by the increase of letters, both pro and con. Also, newsstand sales have gone up (the paper is 7,500 paid).

Banning sees the *West Side News* as both "protector and conscience of the West Side."

The paper is printed offset at the same plant which prints the *Village Voice* letterpress.



Residents Report on Abduction

Area in Regeneration

West of Fifth Avenue and north of Greenwich Village up to 59th Street lie the districts of Chelsea and Clinton. The community paper there, the *Chelsea-Clinton News*, has little or no competition from other weeklies in the area.

The tenor of the community the *Chelsea-Clinton News* serves is reflected in its pages. The area was once a community of ante-bellum townhouses and the Chelsea Hotel was the center of Manhattan society in the last century. Over the years the influx of business, waterfront traffic, the urban shift have taken their toll on the community. Parking lots serving the Broadway entertainment district, warehouses, and sleazy hotels dot the area.

But the process of regeneration is beginning. The paper's role in this regeneration is reflected in a recent five-part series by editor Bruce Buckley, "Renaissance in Clinton?" which points out what private and public organizations are doing to bring back residential status to the community.

Buckley is no stranger to the Manhattan weekly field. A graduate of Columbia, he was one of three founders of the *Morningsider*. Later he was assistant editor at Town and Village. Another staffer with weekly experience is Rita Bird Rodin, who edited the *Brooklyn Heights Press*, and was co-publisher of the *Fire Island News*. Helen Kruger, an ad copywriter, is the theater critic, and Chester Borrok, an agency art director, "moonlights" as the *News*' art director.

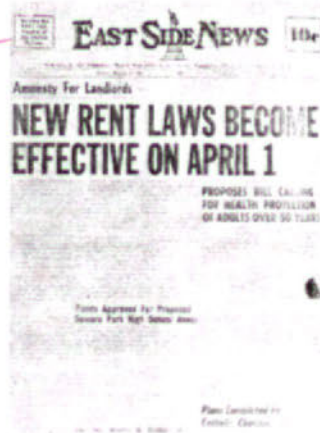
Syndicate Ownership

The *News* was purchased in 1965 by a 10-member syndicate, most of whom are residents of Chelsea-Clinton. The paper was

given a general facelifting and news coverage was expanded. The backers include a lawyer, several housewives, a Democratic state committeeman, a *Life* magazine staffer, two accountants, and corporation controller. Robert Trentlyon, the publisher, works for a Wall Street brokerage firm and is a past president of the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club.

Trentlyon reports a circulation of 14,500 free and paid and the paper is composed by the staff on offset equipment owned by the company. Only the actual printing is jobbed out.

The *News* coverage includes the arts, a sports column, and general news. Features and photos also get good play and there is no one dominant theme. Religious news, political comment, urban problems — crime, dope addiction, housing, air pollution — round out the local coverage.



On Lower East Side

The *East Side News*, published by A. Schlacht, circulates in Manhattan's legendary Lower East Side — from the southernmost tip of the island up to 23rd Street. The community is symbolic of America because it has been, for at least the last 50 years, the classic "melting pot" for immigrants. All races and creeds exist there — sometime in not the most favorable conditions. It is presently in the process of regeneration, yet the general impression of the area is one of poverty and neglect. The streets are perhaps a little dirtier and some tenements are perhaps a little shoddier, yet there is some improvement. All races are represented yet there remains the two large enclaves or ghettos, if you will, Little Italy and Chinatown. Both are colorful, curious and as much a part of the entire community as the new middle-income houses.

(Continued on page 50)

EDITOR & PUBLISHER for April 29, 1967



Mrs. Kathleen A. Hauke
456 McGill Pl. NE
Atlanta, GA 30312



Chelsea Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500



Stanford Report

Volume XXX, No. 1 Sept. 24, 1997 Stanford Report online <http://www.stanford.edu/news/report/>

Class of 2001 embarks on its odyssey

BY ELAINE C. RAY

All the parents in Dinkelspiel Auditorium are attentive. The first orientation speaker has begun.

Then a late-arriving mother hurries through a back door and down the aisle toward the stage. When she reaches the row where her husband is saving a seat, the woman taps the shoulder of the tall, silver-haired father in the aisle seat.

The audience gasps, and the Secret Service agents tense in their navy blue blazers.

But the President of the United States and his wife simply stand and let her squeeze by.

The Clintons had said they wanted to be treated like any other parents, and for that brief moment, they were.

But the throng of 250 reporters and TV crew members, and the law enforcement officials of every stripe - including the canine force deployed to sniff out explosives - made it difficult to ignore the fact that Chelsea Clinton had become Stanford's most famous frosh. Despite the fears of a major debacle, Orientation 1997 went off without a hitch.

In fact, all 1,660 members of the class

of 2001 were given a warm welcome as they arrived on campus Friday morning, some before the dorms officially opened at 8. There were bagels, donuts and other treats to ease their hunger and name tags to ease them past security. New students spent the morning getting acquainted with roommates, lofting beds, securing student ID cards and activating phone service, while their parents offered parting advice and lined drawers with shelf paper.

At noon freshmen got their first taste of cafeteria food, while parents enjoyed a box lunch on Wilbur lawn. The luncheon's host, Provost Condoleezza Rice, offered inspiring words to parents about the intellectual adventure on which their children had embarked. Several of Stanford's best a cappella groups entertained the gathering.

Afternoon panel discussions in Dinkelspiel, Kresge and Annenberg auditoriums were designed to answer parents' questions about the college years. Panelists included staff from counseling and psychological services, academic advising and residential education. Other parent sessions held during the weekend provided information on uni-

See CLASS OF 2001, page 7



PRESIDENT CLINTON and daughter, Chelsea, examine the words to the Stanford Hymn that were printed on fans handed out at convocation on a warm Sept. 19. Hillary Rodham Clinton is at left.

Introductory Seminars big draw for frosh

BY MARISA CIGARROA

Hundreds of freshmen jammed into Kresge Auditorium at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday to listen to a panel of speakers talk about Stanford Introductory Seminars.

"Every seat was filled. Students lined up on the side of the aisles and out the back door. It was crammed," said Todd Benson, director of the Freshman and Sophomore Programs office.

The meeting, which lasted more than an hour, featured a panel of faculty and students who discussed their perspectives

on the benefits of taking small group classes with top-notch faculty. Benson was on hand to discuss the nuts and bolts of signing up for the seminars, which will be offered during fall, winter and spring quarters.

The seminars appear to be quite popular with students and faculty. Shawn Harmon, a freshman from Jackson, Mich., was excited when he received the 104-page course catalog on the small group courses in the mail. The catalog describes each course in detail and contains a picture and short biography of the

See INTRODUCTORY SEMINARS, page 10

Researchers question effectiveness of tuberculosis vaccine

The tuberculosis vaccine known as BCG has been given to more people worldwide than any other vaccine, yet its effectiveness remains controversial. A

Exhibit offers 'Great Impressions'

BY DIANE MANUEL

Ma in flamingo pink? As he's rouged and buffed by Andy Warhol, the Chinese leader never looked more garish. Posed in warm yellows, he appears to be smiling benignly. In hilarious green, the

Drs. Katherine and Judd Marmor" on display now through Dec. 14.

The exhibition gives visitors a first peek at one of several significant loans that have been made to the Stanford Museum of Art in recent years. Katherine and Judd Marmor, who began collecting art in the 1950s, were founding members of the Museum of Contempo-

Merger moves forward

A motion to complete the merger of Stanford's hospitals and clinics with those of UCSF received unanimous approval this week from the committees to which the Stanford University Board of Trustees and the Stanford Health Services Board have

JAMES MORTOYA, newly appointed vice president for student affairs, welcomes the last class that he admitted to Stanford while he was dean of undergraduate admission and financial aid.



DAVE LINDVOLD



FRESHMEN MOVING IN to Florence Moore Hall entered through an arch of balloons.

LA 00086



THE PRESS CAME OUT in force to cover the First Family at convocation.

LA 00086



AT THE PARENTS' DINNER on Wilbur Field, Jenny Raugh, left, mother of Justin Raugh, chats with Irena Howard, mother of Toni Howard, while Toni's father, Alfred, jokes with her aunt, Denise Patel.

Class of 2001

continued from page 1

versity billing and student loans.

At 3:30 the university gave its formal welcome to the Class of 2001 during Opening Convocation on the Main

See convocation texts, next page.

Quad. Senior Blake Harris warned the crowd with reassuring words to parents and students and recollections of his freshman year.

"Soon I realized that although I had no plans to win a gold medal, aspirations to hike Everest or background as a child actor, I too had something to contribute to Stanford. And so do each of you. The most important thing I can say to you is this: You don't have to impress anyone here, only yourself. And Stanford gives you the daily opportunities to amaze yourself," Harris said.

President Gerhard Casper began his remarks with a story that a friend passed along to him about Abbott Lawrence Lowell, a former president of Harvard, who was summoned to the White House

by the Taft administration. In Lowell's absence, his secretary told a visitor, "The president is in Washington visiting Mr. Taft." Casper recalled a letter his friend sent recently. "At Stanford, from now on, the local lore will be: 'The president? The president is having a parent conference with Mr. Clinton.'"

On a more serious note, Casper reminded students why they are here. "The main purpose in attending a college is to develop to the utmost and for a lifetime the ability to use reason to see the clearer. For the next four years, you will hone that ability by, among other things, making your own choices about your own education. The university is a welcome to adulthood, to ambiguity and ambivalence - to the difficulty of making choices responsibly."

Casper invoked the words of physicist Robert Oppenheimer, who in 1932 implored his younger brother to "keep an open mind: to cultivate a disinterested and catholic interest in every intellectual discipline, and in the non-academic excellences of the world, so that you may not lose that freshness of mind from which alone the life of the mind derives, and that your choice, whatever it be, of

The most important thing

I can say to you is this:

You don't have to impress anyone here,

only yourself,' senior Blake Harris

told the freshmen.

work to do, may be a real choice and one reasonably free." I could not agree more," added Casper.

After convocation, students and parents returned to the dorms to meet with their residence staffs. At 6, parents and frosh bid one another a tearful farewell, then went off to dinner - students ate in their dining halls with their academic advisers, and parents attended a dinner on Wilbur lawn hosted by President Casper and Dr. Regina Casper. Later, while students filed through metal detectors at Memorial Auditorium for an academic forum, parents were treated to dessert at Memorial Church.

Although President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton spent most of the day on unofficial business, they stopped by the Faculty Club where Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbot and 145 guests were attending a two-day conference on NATO. President Clinton spoke briefly about how much he had enjoyed the day, then mingled with the crowd for about an hour.

Stanford's administrators, who had the arduous task of ensuring that all families were comfortable, were also pleased with the way things had gone. Despite the added security and media presence, and save the RAs who were running around in togas, many areas of campus maintained an air of normalcy throughout the day. The press conducted themselves with restraint, and later most media outlets pledged to let the "First Freshman" be.

As for Chelsea, she was spotted around 8 Friday evening walking toward the Quad in a group of 15 or 20. No Secret Service agents or White House aides were identifiable as she took her first steps toward life as just another member of the first class to graduate in the third millennium. ■

Daily Cal apology for swipe at Chelsea

By Venise Wagner and
Marianne Costantinou
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

When Daily Californian columnist Guy Branum exhorted UC-Berkeley students to seize Stanford's campus and bloody the first daughter, he meant it in fun — wanting to play upon a tradition of irreverence for Saturday's 100th Big Game.

Instead, his Thursday column was denounced by his editors, who published a full apology Friday.

The timing of the Daily Cal column was awkward for the university, which is planning to welcome Hillary Rodham Clinton to campus Monday for a town hall meet-

[See DAILY CAL, A-14]

◆ DAILY CAL from A-1

Daily Cal apology for Stanford article

ing on foster care.

UC-Berkeley spokesman Jesus Mensa said that although the column had not affected negotiations with the Secret Service in arranging the visit, Chancellor Robert Berdahl was furious.

After revealing the name of Chelsea's dorm, Branum had written: "Show your spirit on Chelsea's bloodied carcass, because as the Stanford Daily lets us know, she is JUST ANOTHER STUDENT. She embodies the Stanford ethos of establishment worship that must be subverted and destroyed."

"Is hate a strong word? Yes. Is it applicable? Certainly."

"We were definitely and extremely concerned about the column and the tone," Mensa said in response. "And to call for not only vandalism and violence on anybody, but especially on the daughter of the president. . . . It was irresponsible. We're encouraged that the Daily Cal ran the apology. The Daily Cal needs to be more careful."

With the apology from his editors, Branum became the second Bay Area campus columnist to get into trouble for writing about Chelsea.

Stanford senior Jesse Oxford was fired by the Stanford Daily in October after he violated the paper's policy prohibiting articles about the first freshman unless she did something newsworthy.

Editor approved column

Although Opinion Page Editor Maggie Clipper approved Bran-

um's column, other editorial staff members were appalled when they saw the piece for the first time in Thursday's edition.

Six members of the editorial board met that day and decided it was in poor taste. On Friday, the Daily Cal ran an editors' note apologizing for seriously undermining a "student's physical safety" and the paper's reputation.

Editor in Chief Ryan Tate said Saturday that the column was a problem not so much because it was the president's daughter but because it singled out an individual, printed her residence and called for physical harm to her person.

"There's a mood of 'let's get Stanford,'" Tate said. "Our job is to rise above that. If it had been another freshman . . . that would have been unacceptable, too."

"It was within the bounds of the law, but we didn't think it was within the bounds of what our newspaper does. It was a big error on our part. It's something we had to take responsibility for. That doesn't excuse that it ran in the first place."

Tate said the incident did not prompt any changes in policy, but he vowed to be more vigilant of opinion pieces before publication.

Clipper could not be reached for comment.

Meant to be satirical

On Saturday, Branum said the column was meant to be satirical.

"My readers are intelligent adults and capable of understanding that I was not really suggesting violence and was rather indicting the university that prides itself on its ability to keep qualified students out," said Branum, a senior

DAILY CAL APOLOGY



The Daily Californian published this apology for a column that said Chelsea Clinton "must be ... destroyed."

majoring in political science.

Deriding Stanford's elitist reputation, Branum had written: "Any of you wishing to spread some of our rustic working-class charm to Miss Chelsea should remember that she lives in (name of dorm), and the Secret Service guys know that killing a drunk college student would be political suicide for their boss."

As he defended his column Saturday, the 22-year-old Branum, who was born and raised in Yuba City, said: "When we sing 'Give them the ax in the neck,' we are not actually suggesting that Stanford students be decapitated," he continued. "We're just having fun with the imagery of violence to express our animosity."

Somewhat repentant, Branum said he was surprised by the Daily Cal's editorial response to his piece.

"I didn't think anything like this would happen," he said. "I seriously thought that just people here on campus would read it. That they would be filled with jingoism and school spirit."

"If (Chelsea Clinton) was offended by it, I apologize."

Managing Editor Brendan Sanchez said that the column had elicited very little public response.

"We had one letter to the editor (objecting)," he said. "It was from the Berkeley community. The nature of the column itself was offensive, but it was in no means serious."

EDITORS' NOTE

The Daily Californian regrets the publication yesterday of a column in which the author identified Stanford freshman Chelsea Clinton's place of residence and called on students to commit violent acts against her. The article seriously undermined the student's physical safety and The Daily Californian's reputation as a forum for responsible discourse.

Calls for violence against specific individuals, rhetorical or not, present a clear threat to the target's physical safety when coupled with the person's physical location.



EXAMINER GRAPHICS

Chelsea references that were read to him. But he said he would pass the fax to his supervisor.

At the Berkeley Police Department, Gary Allen, the supervisor, thought the column was "weird" and just a bunch of "rhetoric."

The column falls under the First Amendment's protection of free speech, he said. It would only be a crime worthy of investigation if someone acted on it — or even got together to plan to, in which case it would be conspiracy.

As for giving Chelsea extra protection, no one felt the article posed threat of physical harm.

Besides, said the dispatcher on Berkeley's campus: "Chelsea is guarded by people who guard her."

Freedom of the press?

Several Cal and Stanford students at the Big Game said they hadn't even read the column. But when told of its contents, their responses were mixed.

"What's wrong with printing where she lives?" demanded Rob Alachuer, a Cal student. "Isn't that just freedom of the press? Isn't that the . . . whatever amendment?"

Hearing that the Daily Cal issued an apology, Alachuer snorted: "That's lame. She's just a Stanford student; they are too protective of her."

But Sarah Dwyer, a Stanford junior, said she had heard about the diatribe in the Daily Cal and didn't think it was funny.

"Why can't people just leave (Chelsea) alone?" she asked. "It's an invasion of her privacy. She deserves an apology from Cal."

Jane Ganahl of The Examiner staff contributed to this report.



The College Look

When Hillary Rodham hit Wellesley College in 1965, she was a Peter Pan-collared Republican. By June 1969 (top), when her anti-Establishment commencement address landed her in *LIFE*, her style had loosened up considerably. This fall, as she and President Clinton escorted their daughter to Stanford, the First Lady probably wondered how college would change Chelsea. She may even have offered up a prayer: *Please, Lord, no striped flares.* —KENNETH MILLER

In defense of Chelsea, Secret Service agents visit embroiled Cal columnist By T.T. Nhu Knight-Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

SAN JOSE, Calif. Two Secret Service agents paid a visit Monday morning to Guy Branum, the 22-year-old columnist for the Daily Californian who has been in hot water since Thursday, when he used his column to exhort Cal students to "show your spirit on Chelsea's bloody carcass" in the frenzy leading up to the 100th playing of the Big Game between Stanford and the University of California-Berkeley.

Branum recorded the encounter with the agents on a microcassette. University of California police confirmed that they helped the Secret

Service set up the visit, though the Secret Service would not comment on it.

The agents took a photo of Branum and told him not to leave his apartment, except to attend classes, while Hillary Rodham Clinton was visiting the University of California-Berkeley campus Monday.

Quoting from the tape, Branum said agent Chris Van Holt told him: "I want to make sure you don't have any weapons or any of the stuff that you see on TV that actually happens in apartments, like a big picture of Chelsea with a big X in blood on it."

Asked by the agents why he wrote the column that mentioned Stanford's most famous freshman, Branum said he replied: "It wasn't about Chelsea. It was about Stanford and the Big Game."

Hoping not to antagonize the agents, Branum said he tried to be meek and compliant not easy, he admitted, for someone who is 6-foot-4 and estimates his weight to be "between 200 to 300 pounds."

The agents, whom Branum described as wearing matching red power ties, were not amused by his humor.

"I understand the rivalry dynamics between Cal and Stanford," Branum said Van Holt told him. "It's the 100th anniversary of the Big Game and you want to kick their ass. But what I don't really understand is, why drag this little kid into it?"

The agent also asked about another column in which Branum called the President the "Sexual Predator-in-Chief."

"Don't you think that's a low blow?" Branum said the agent asked him.

The Daily Cal apologized Friday for Branum's irreverent column. Daily Cal editor-in-chief Ryan Tate said the episode has been a "learning experience" for the staff at the independent newspaper. He said editors should not have allowed the column to be printed. Nonetheless, Branum's column has been renewed for next semester, Tate said.

Branum, a senior political science major from Yuba City, Calif., recently replaced cross-dressing columnist Edie Jan on the UC-Berkeley newspaper.

"I write a humorous column using cultural references every week," Branum told the San Jose Mercury News. He's often outrageous and has written about the Clintons before, calling the president "the most powerful redneck in the world."

Last week's incident was the second involving a college newspaper since Chelsea enrolled at Stanford in September. Jesse Oxford, a Stanford senior, was fired from the Stanford Daily in October after writing a column about Chelsea that his editor said violated the paper's policy of treating her like any other student.

"That's the difference between Berkeley and Stanford," Branum said. "At Berkeley we understand the need to be critical and irreverent."

Chelsea and mom, parting company



Stanford-bound Chelsea Clinton has been largely spared unwelcome and intrusive press attention during her teenage years in the White House, according to her mother. President Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, have been fiercely protective of their daughter's privacy in Washington.

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

I'VE BEEN collecting stories from fellow parents about the traumas of leaving a child at college. There's the one about the mother who sneaked back on campus to see her son one last time, only to find herself skulking around the hallway of his dorm like a spy in a Grade B Cold War thriller.

I could empathize.

There was the father who couldn't sleep at night because he was worried that his son wasn't sleeping enough; the mother who couldn't bear to erase any phone message from her absent daughter; the parents who choked up every time they walked by the empty room that used to drive them crazy with its clutter and noise.

I've taken a lot of comfort from those stories because misery loves company, and I am dreading the moment Bill and I have to say goodbye to Chelsea at Stanford later this week. Oh, I know all about how great I should feel at her achievement and how excited I should be about the wonderful experiences that await her. But those are

my mature moments. Most of the time, I'm wondering why I ever agreed to let her skip third grade.

So I've kept busy cross-checking the endless list of supplies college freshmen are said to need in their dorm rooms. I've cleared out closets and drawers, sorted, thrown out and given away clothes, and generally managed to stay busy with the never-ending tasks of preparing to send her off.

As far as Chelsea is concerned, she's ready to go; there's no doubt about that. Because Stanford starts much later than most schools, Chelsea has already heard from many of her friends about the

excitement and adjustments of college life — from new roommates to professors who expect you to read 500 pages a night — and even which items should be taken along and which should be left at home.

THE REALLY important things any student takes to college, however, aren't packed in boxes and suitcases but in their minds and hearts. Like most mothers, I've busied myself worrying about trivia, like the color of her towels, when what I'm really concerned about is whether she'll make good friends, how she'll like her classes and whether she'll eat the right foods.

Unlike every other mother, however, I have the added concern of security and privacy that go along with her being the president's daughter. Bill and I trust Chelsea to be off on her own, but we will no longer be able to shield

her as we have tried to do while she was at home with us.

That is a problem I've thought a lot about in the wake of Princess Diana's death and the resulting concern about her sons. Neither my daughter nor the young princes chose their parents' circumstances. Like all young people, they are entitled to space and privacy. They deserve to be able to pursue their educations and navigate toward adulthood without the extra pressure of press and public scrutiny.

I am grateful that Chelsea has been largely spared unwelcome and intrusive press attention during the last 4½ years. Once the American media understood that Bill and I were committed to protecting her privacy, they have — with very few exceptions — avoided any hint of stalking her or covering her outside of clearly public events that she participated in because of her father's role.

THE MEDIA'S sensitivity and responsibility have been enormously beneficial for my daughter, and she has had as normal a growing-up as is possible in the White House. She's been allowed to be a regular teenager, free to pursue her studies and interests largely without fear of interference. That's as it should have been. That's as it should be for William, Harry or the child of any public figure, who should be left alone to mature as sanely as possible. And that's how I hope it will be for Chelsea as she embarks on her college years.

I remember well my own college years: the good, the



“I remember well my own college years: the good, the bad and the ridiculous.”

— Hillary Rodham Clinton

bad and the ridiculous. The dates that didn't work out; the late-night rushing back to the dorm before curfew — a relic of the distant past; the caffeine-fueled all-nighters during finals; the long walks through city streets or across campus that ended in a tender moment with a handsome new boyfriend. I can't imagine having any of those private experiences, all part of finding myself, being interrupted by the bright lights of cameras — and not because of anything I was or did but because of my parents' occupations.

I hope Chelsea's college years will be her own, too. I pray that she and her friends will spend the next four years learning, discovering what is important to them, and moving closer to their hopes and dreams. Then I can go back to worrying about everything else — from earthquakes to stolen bicycles.

Hillary Rodham Clinton wrote this article for *Creators Syndicate Inc.*

EVEN AS WHITEWATER indictments are being handed down, the President is facing a new scandal involving a family member. *Are You There God? It's Me, Chelsea*, named after the Judy Blume book about a young girl's awkward days of early puberty, is an exhilarating tour de force of First Child angst, a nine-song DIY masterpiece from the bowels of the White House that slams forcefully through a slew of genres—rap, punk, power pop, folk and spoken word. Throughout it all, presidential daughter Chelsea Clinton delivers blistering critiques on an array of policy matters, and in an astonishingly unselfconscious way reveals the true Chelsea to an unsuspecting but curious nation.

This cassette-only release, recorded cheaply on a 70s-era tape machine, made its way to me via a family member of a child who attends school with Chelsea. By all indications, Ms. Clinton is a frustrated riot teen with a lot on her mind and thechutzpah to say it. Like most 14-year-olds, Chelsea has an ATTITUDE PROBLEM; the President, as a result, has a Chelsea problem.

According to sources, Ms. Clinton brought copies of her tape to school and distributed it to friends after becoming incensed at her parents' refusal to let her go to Woodstock, for canceling her subscription to *Sassy*, and for not inviting Liz Phair to the White House's celebration of American music earlier this fall. Moreover, sources say, Chelsea is increasingly aggravated by her parents' enforcement of the media blackout on her life, except when it comes to nerdy, politically useful events like her 14th birthday party—a debacle she savagely deconstructs on the album's opener, "Lousy Birthday."

This spoken-word-over-bongos lament provides a never-before-seen glimpse into the realpolitik of Clinton-style family values: "It was the first time I ever got a spankin'/When I told them I wanted to go whitewater rafting/If you think the White House is in disarray/you should've seen what I did to my room/after they took my *Taxi Driver* video away."

It's clear throughout *Are You There God?*... that Ms. Clinton is struggling mightily with an Electra complex of epic proportions. Brutally firing away at her father's various lusts, she adapts a Liz Phair title, "Fuck and Run (For President)," and rewrites the lyrics to assail his sexual politics and critique his foreign policy: "You gave Paula Jones the bone/I know, I heard you on the phone/I heard her squeal like a pig/I heard you moan."

Then, after a five-minute saxophone freakout reminiscent of early Pharoah Sanders,

CHELSEA RIOT GRRRL

BY TOM GOGOLA

Elsewhere on "Cabinet Fever," Chelsea takes Clinton's team members, past and present, to task: "Les Aspin was pretty much a dork/he went bye-bye like Pentagon pork." She spares George Stephanopoulos, because, as Chelsea herself reports, she has a mad crush on him: "I ain't gonna shave my pits/I know Georgie likes it, and it gives Gergen fits."

If you're looking for musical reference points, think Old Skull meets Patti Smith.

Although *Are You There God? It's Me, Chelsea* has been in circulation for at least a month, it's telling that not a single word about it has appeared in any publication anywhere. White House aides did reportedly intercept a copy Chelsea tried to send to *Gajob*, the estimable cassette-only review zine, but many copies had already gotten around. While threats were made that the White House would sever media access if the tape was featured on *Inside Politics*, the real reason for the blackout, I suspect, is the media trying to save face in the wake of "Dee Dee Ramone," Chelsea's savage attack on the White House press corps.

This brutal two-minute spate of two-chord punk frenzy spares no member as it careens giddily through the self-styled arbiters of conventional White House wisdom. With rants like "Wolf Blitzer is worse than Hitler" and "Maureen Dowd is a fucking cow," who can blame them for keeping this thing under the carpet?

The middle section of *Are You There God?*... is cut from the same angry two- and three-chord cloth; critics might argue that Chelsea's primitive guitar riffs are a bit repetitive, but even if this were a deficiency, it's more than made up for by the lyrical potency.

"Tip Tipper Over" has Chelsea railing against she-Gore's exploits with the PMRC, along with the Vice President's sellout on environmental issues: "Your stiff old man needs a warning label/His tree-hugging persona is a goddamn fable/Tip Tipper over/Tell Al to go screw/Tip Tipper over/The spotted owl will get you."

Her pro-pot anthem "Let's Inhale" is bouncy and celebratory, and Chelsea messes with the President with a sample of the bong-sucking sound from the Beastie Boys' *Paul's Boutique* intercut with snippets of Dad laughing. Between that she screams the choppy chorus: "Let's inhale/Let's go to jail/Let's call Guinier/When we need to make bail/Let's inhale/till we're

overlaid with snippets from Dad's press conferences, Chelsea screeches in no uncertain terms, "Keep Jimmy Carter out of my face/I'll spray that peanuthead full of mace/Tell Aristide to join Hair Club for Men/Or shave Castro's beard, glue it on, amen!"

Make no mistake—this is no novelty act. Young Ms. Clinton sneers and giggles her way through one poignant, blistering line after another. On "Cabinet Fever" she describes a scene between herself and Secretary of State Warren Christopher following a White House dinner:

"That shrivelly old prune/I wanted to slug him/he cut a stinky one/then they made me hug him."



melting do vodka shots/with comrade Yeltsin."

"Socks Sucks" is a my personal favorite, conjuring up the raw angst of early D.C. punks like Minor Threat as it shatters the silly media myth that the First Cat is Chelsea's best friend: "Socks sucks/I hate that cat/Socks sucks/Worse than GATT/Socks sucks/furry piece of shit/socks sucks/Brady Bill won't help it."

Displaying an acumen for the controversial moments that occasionally rear up in the pop culture at large, she peppers "Socks Sucks" with samples from the infamous Beavis and Butt-head cat-vacuum episode. Her sense of the absurd is keen; her subversive wit sustains this brilliant debut throughout. On "Ollie Oops," the ever-present screech of a paper shredder obscures the lyrics and brings to mind the early efforts of Throbbing Gristle as well as the fuck-off spirit of *Metal Machine Music*.

The pace and tone slow on "Chelsea Clinton's Blues," a heartwrenching, funny acoustic ballad/rap that unflinchingly explores the isolation and loneliness Chelsea endures:

"I'm your pubescent First Child, Chelsea/Adolescence is just so messy/It's no help that saxophone playin'/makes me want to crank up the Slayer/I'm like Emily Dickinson/with right-wing friction/I'm Sylvia Plath/'cept Panetta does my math."

The achingly unselfconscious ode is filled with references to her daily life, and she delivers her lines in a sweetly plaintive wail that never succumbs to schmaltziness or self-pity:

"Assault weapons violence/and mandatory alliances/call me tinsel-toothed/I'll sic Shalala on you./I've got frizzy hair/I got to meet Cher/I whoopee-cushioned Ron Brown/I think Reno's a clown." She ends it with an a cappella cry for release from it all, using a Ray Charles verse to lay her angst on

the line: "Tell my mama, tell my pa, I wanna to go back to Arkansas."

So, you must be wondering, is there a major-label deal in the offing? According to an A&R source at Geffen Records, the label is "in negotiations" with the White House about releasing *Are You There God?*... on vinyl only.

"We'll have to clean it up a bit," the source said. "It's a sensitive matter because we're dealing with a talented young lady who also happens to be the President's daughter. We'd want to be careful about having too many anti-establishment sentiments coming from, really, the citadel of the establishment. At a certain point, it becomes a national security issue. I'll tell you one thing, [Steve] Albini definitely won't be working on this one."

Major-label stardom remains an open question, complicated by the fact that a senior administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Chief of Staff Leon Panetta has indicated that "Chelsea must go." Dee Dee Myers would neither confirm nor deny the tape's existence, despite allegations from White House staffers that it's her preferred workout music these days.

Unlike her father, Chelsea is uncompromising, principled, and unwavering in her dedication to liberation and militancy. With the pabulum pulsations of Kenny G and Michael Bolton peeling ever so balefully through the White House, *Are You There God? It's Me, Chelsea* is a refreshingly brutal, nihilistic romp. Eclectic as Beck, nastier than GG Allin, with the passion of Patti Smith and the politics of Bob Dylan, this is the album of the year, and the only worthwhile thing to emerge from the Clinton years. Chelsea in 2020!

my press
12/7/94 2082

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UTNE READER is printed on Pensgra Suede recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer waste content of 15 percent, from Niagara of Wisconsin.

Microfilm and microfiche available UMI. UTNE READER is indexed by Reader's Guide and Alternative Press Index, electronically indexed by Magazine Index (Dialog File 47), and electronically abstracted by UMI Newspaper & Periodical Database (Dialog File 444).

U.N.C.L.E.

UT

UTNE READER

husband is working at a position that he loves. Our growth would not have been possible had we not moved from our place-based community.

Johanne Clement May
Tempe, AZ

The more I hear about the awesome potential for us all to be found in the Internet, the more I am reminded of the fairy tale about the king's new clothes, in which a vain king is bamboozled out of a roomful of gold by a con artist who says he can weave it into fine clothes. So it is with the cyberhood too. The French have had it for decades now in almost every home. It's called the mini-tel. The most popular use for it is an on-line version of the 900 phone call. What kind of pompous bullshit says total strangers want to discuss the meaning of life over modems when they can't even say hello to each other as the door shuts on an elevator? It is the ultimate reality of the concepts put forth in the '60s book *The Pursuit of Loneliness: American Culture at the Breaking Point*: sitting alone in your room in front of a computer screen typing like hell to people far away whom you never need meet in person and acting like together you are solving

the problems of the world. This while the garbage needs to be taken out and the dog has his legs crossed because he needs a walk.

Certainly on-line systems have some obvious positive aspects. Routine listings of things can save paper, hence trees, hence they are good for the environment. I am all for having newspapers and magazines downloaded while I sleep and text converted onto cassette so I can listen to it while I drive. But the day I don't strike up a conversation with my next-door neighbor because I have to chat with someone "important" to me via a dead piece of technology, it's time to pull the plug.

Robert Allen Schledwitz
West Roxbury, MA

Chelsea Unplugged

My understanding is that "Chelsea Riot Grrrl" (March/April 1995) is a reprint of a story that appeared in a December 1994 issue of the *New York Press*.

As you and the *New York Press* have acknowledged, the piece is purely satirical and fictional and bears no relationship to any events or comments by Chelsea Clinton. Your readers and I appreciate the appropriate role of

There's a rumor going around that you once borrowed a dictionary that contained the word "liberal" and you drove past a hospital where an abortion may have been performed.



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humor but recognize the importance of upholding some standards of good taste and judgment. I therefore ask that your publication make it clear that any remarks or activities attributed to Chelsea Clinton were entirely the product of your writer's imagination, and not of Chelsea Clinton.

I do not believe that Chelsea Clinton or any other 15-year-old person should be the subject of this kind of satirical writing. Chelsea Clinton is a private person and is deserving of her privacy.

Michael D. McCurry
White House Press Secretary
Washington, DC

Passionate Teaching

I should have been preparing for teaching tomorrow, but instead I flipped through *Utne Reader* and ran across bell hooks' "In Praise of Silent/Teacher Romances" (March/April 1995). While hooks says these romances emerge from her "longing to use the erotic for growth," she glosses over the inherent power inequities in such relationships by making a distinction between "abusive" and "transgressive" classroom eroticism. Who determines whether a relationship is transgressive or abusive? Is it the teacher, the student, or she or he is involved with, or the rest of the class, who may not be tapping into this erotic "source of energy"? If the erotic is a source of personal growth, and personal growth is crucial to being a good teacher, I believe the responsibility of a teacher lies in creating an atmosphere conducive to communal growth, to the growth of everyone in the class. Hooks insists that there are instances of student/teacher eroticism where "both retain degrees of agency and choice," and perhaps this is true, though "degrees" seem particularly laden with irony. The larger issue, though, is that a teacher does not have only one student in a classroom, and choice must be accorded to everyone in the classroom, not reserved for the teacher and the designated student.

John Highfield
English, LA

Don't Blame the Germans

Lauren Fox's "Multiple Choice: A Different Kind of History" (March/April 1995) is another example of rei-

fied blame; a blame that is kept alive like a fire by second-generation offspring of people persecuted in the 1940s.

The major fault with Fox's essay is that she preaches the continuation of hatred and blame toward one nation. In her own words, she tells us that moving on is "very 1950s," implying that it is a denial of her emotional health to live in the present instead of dwelling on her family history.

The irony to all this is that she wasn't there! She tells us she loses sleep over what happened to her family over 50 years ago, that there should be no moving on, and that Germany is entirely to blame. Fox apparently knows very little about the accomplices of Nazi Germany, of the French, Dutch, Polish, English, American, and Jewish supporters of the genocides. If it were only as easy as blaming one group, the world would be as simple as her stories.

Michael Sean Dillon
San Francisco, CA

Offensive Housecleaners

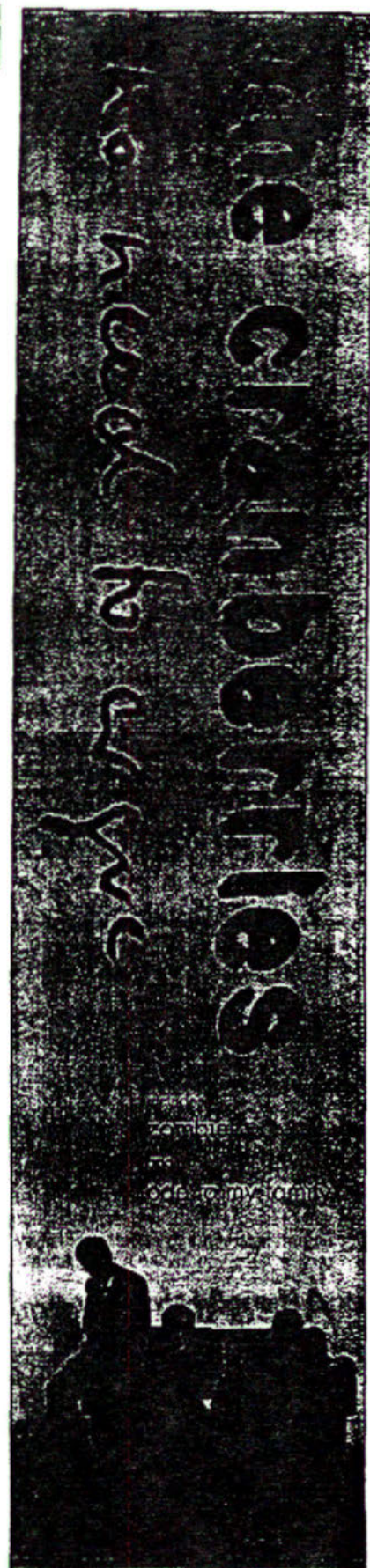
Tell Louise Raffkin ("What Housecleaners Know," March/April 1995) that I would fire any housecleaner with the bad judgment to take off her shirt and bra at work and the poor taste to answer my door in such an unprofessional state. Stop trying to make it seem that you offended some fussy homosexual with your doubtless striking female breasts.

Jeff Walters
Corsicana, TX

When Killing Becomes OK

Jack Kevorkian ("A Modern Inquisition," March/April 1995) is right about one thing: The press should not criticize him for doing what many honorable "medical ethicists" are proposing in the more obscure ethical journals.

Physician-aided death is politically correct in many academic circles; perhaps this is why there has been little publicity about the findings of the Remmelink Commission, a 1990 Dutch government report that reveals what happens to a country that allows physicians to dispense death under "strict criteria." This report shows not only that voluntary physician-aided death occurs, but also that all sorts of physician-



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GLEANINGS

UK

UTNE READER

Instead, they will have five snacks: "daystart," "pulsebreak," "humpmunch," "holdmeal," and "evesnack."

- Virtual reality experiences may lead to personality afflictions that will send people to psychiatrists. People may forgo their "real" identities in favor of the perfect bodies created in the world of virtual reality.

- Computers will get closer to being true thinking machines. Eventually, computers may be considered a new kingdom, comparable to the plant and animal kingdoms.

- Crime will increase through the early part of the 21st century. One reason: In increasingly multicultural societies, traditional forms of behavior are breaking down or coming into conflict.

- Another baby boom will take place in the United States during the first 12 years of the new century. By 2012, the annual number of births may exceed 4.3 million.

- People will one day carry electronic "smart" cards for identification, financial transactions, and other purposes. A smart card may contain an individual's education and employment records, medical history, credit status, and genetic data.

- Future wars may be fought with minimum-bloodshed weapons that cause almost no deaths. Possibilities include laser rifles to cause temporary blindness, ultrasound to cause dizziness, and sedative guns to make victims groggy.

- Terrorists of the future may be able to wipe out half a city's population with genetically engineered superplagues. Another sinister possibility is "race bombs"—genetic weapons that infect specific ethnic groups with fatal diseases.

Outlook '95

From Outlook '95, an eight-page report listing 77 forecasts chosen from the 1994 issues of The Futurist. The report is available from the World Future Society, 7910 Woodmont Av., Suite 450, Bethesda, MD 20814.

CHELSEA RIOT GRRRL

White House basement tapes

Even as Whitewater indictments are being handed down, the president is facing a new scandal involving a family member. *Are You There God? It's Me.*

Chelsea, named after the Judy Blume book about a young girl's awkward days of early puberty, is an exhilarating tour de force of First Child angst, a nine-song DIY masterpiece from the bowels of the White House that slams forcefully through a slew of genres—rap, punk, power pop, folk, and spoken word. Throughout it all, presidential daughter Chelsea Clinton delivers blistering critiques on an array of policy matters, and in an astonishingly unself-conscious way reveals the true Chelsea to an unsuspecting but curious nation.

This cassette-only release, recorded cheaply on a '70s-era tape machine, made its way to me via a family member of a child who attends school with Chelsea. By all indications, Ms. Clinton is a frustrated riot teen with a lot on her mind and the chutzpah to say it. Like most 14-year-olds, Chelsea has an attitude problem; the president, as a result, has a Chelsea problem.

According to sources, Ms. Clinton brought copies of her tape to school and distributed it to friends after becoming incensed at her parents because they refused to let her go to Woodstock, canceled her subscription to *Sassy*, and didn't invite Liz Phair to the White House's celebration of American music. Moreover, sources say, Chelsea is increasingly aggravated by her parents' enforcement of the media blackout on her life, except when it comes to nerdy, politically useful events like her 14th birthday party—a debacle she savagely deconstructs on the album's opener, "Lousy Birthday," a spoken-word-over-bongos lament that provides a never-before-seen glimpse into the realpolitik of Clinton-style family values: "It was the first time I ever got a spankin' / When I told them I wanted to go whitewater rafting / If you think the White House is in disarray / You should've seen what I did to my room / After they took my *Taxi Driver* video away."

It's clear throughout *Are You There* that Ms. Clinton is struggling mightily with an Electra complex of epic proportions. Brutally firing away at her father's various lusts, she adapts a Liz Phair title, "Fuck and Run (for President)" and rewrites the lyrics to assail his sexual politics and critique his foreign policy: "You gave Paula Jones the bone / I know, I heard you on the phone / I heard her squeal like a pig / I heard you moan."

UTNE READER

UN

GLEANINGS

Then, after a five-minute saxophone freakout reminiscent of early Pharoah Sanders, overlaid with snippets from dad's press conferences, Chelsea screeches in no uncertain terms, "Keep Jimmy Carter out of my face / I'll spray that peanuthead full of Mace / Tell Aristide to join Hair Club for Men / Or shave Castro's beard, glue it on, amen!"

It's telling that not a single word about *Are You There* has appeared in any publication anywhere. White House aides reportedly intercepted a copy Chelsea tried to send to *Gajob*, the estimable cassette-only review zine, but many copies had already gotten around. While the White House threatened to sever media access if the tape was featured on *Inside Politics*, the real reason for the blackout, I suspect, is the media trying to save face in the wake of "Dee Dee Ramone." Chelsea's savage attack on the White House press corps. This brutal two-minute spate of two-chord punk frenzy spares no one as it careens giddily through the self-styled arbiters of conventional White House wisdom. With rants like "Wolf Blitzer Is Worse Than Hitler" and "Maureen Dowd Is a Fucking Cow," who can blame them for keeping this thing under the carpet?

The middle section of *Are You There* is cut from the same angry two-and three-chord cloth; critics might argue that Chelsea's primitive guitar riffs are a bit repetitive, but even if this were a deficiency, it's more than made up for by the lyrical potency.

"Tip Tipper Over" has Chelsea railing against she-Gore's exploits along with the Parents' Music Resource Center, with the vice president's sellout on environmental issues: "Your stiff old man needs a warning label / His tree-hugging persona is a goddamn fable / Tip Tipper over / Tell Al to go screw / Tip Tipper over / The spotted owl will get you."

Her pro-pot anthem "Let's Inhale" is bouncy and celebratory, and Chelsea messes with the president with a sample of the bong-sucking sound from the Beastie Boys' *Paul's Boutique* intercut with snippets of dad laughing. Between that she screams the choppy chorus: "Let's inhale / Let's go to jail / Let's call Guinier / When we need to make bail / Let's inhale / Till we're meltin' / Do vodka shots / With comrade Yeltsin."

Unlike her father, Chelsea is uncompromising, principled, and unwavering in her dedication to liberation and mil-

itancy. With the pabulum pulsations of Kenny G and Michael Bolton peeling ever so balefully through the White House, *Are You There God? It's Me, Chelsea* is a refreshingly brutal, nihilistic romp. Eclectic as Beck, nastier than GG Allin, with the passion of Patti Smith and the politics of Bob Dylan, this is the album of the year, and the only worthwhile thing to emerge from the Clinton years. Chelsea in 2020!

—Tom Gogola
New York Press

From New York Press (Dec. 7, 1994). Subscriptions: \$25/yr. (52 issues) from The Puck Building, 295 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012-2722.

articles originate

IN PRAISE OF STUDENT/TEACHER ROMANCES

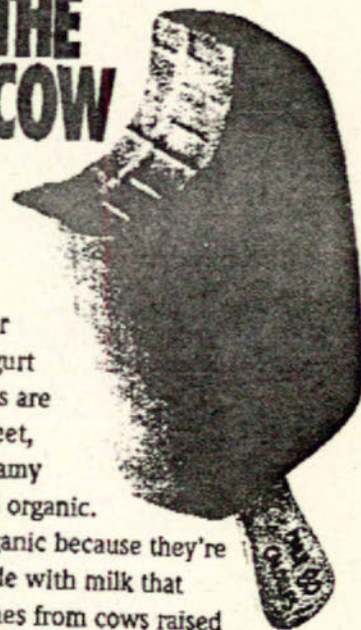
Notes on the subversive power of passion

Desire in the context of relations where hierarchy and unequal power separate individuals is always potentially disruptive and, simultaneously, potentially transformative. It can also be the democratic equalizing force—the fierce reminder of the limitations of hierarchy and status.

The contemporary feminist movement has usefully interrogated the way men in power within patriarchal society often use that power to abuse and sexually coerce females. That necessary critical intervention is undermined when it obscures recognition of the way in which desire can be acknowledged in relationships between individuals where there is unequal power without being abusive. It is undermined when any individual who is in a less powerful position is represented as being without choice.

Contemporary focus on victimization tends to leave very little room for recognition of the erotic as a space of transgression that can undermine politics of domination. Rather than perceiving desire between individuals (let us imagine here teacher and student) as always and only dangerous, negative and destructive, what does it mean to consider the positive uses of that desire, the way the erotic can serve the interests of spiritual growth? To think in a more holistic way about the erotic engages us in understanding the way transgression of boundaries can be both destructive

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1995

Mr. Craig Cox
Managing Editor
Utne Reader
1624 Harmon Place
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dear Mr. Cox:

I am writing about the article "Chelsea Riot Grrrl" in the March/April issue of the Utne Reader. My understanding is that this article is a reprint of a story that appeared in a December 1994 issue of the New York Press.

As you and the New York Press have acknowledged, the piece is purely satirical and fictional and bears no relationship to any events or comments by Chelsea Clinton. Your readers and I appreciate the appropriate role of humor, but recognize the importance of upholding some standards of good taste and judgement. I therefore ask that your publication make it clear that any remarks or activities attributed to Chelsea Clinton were entirely the product of your writer's imagination, and not of Chelsea Clinton.

I do not believe that Chelsea Clinton or any other 15 year old person should be the subject of this kind of satirical writing. Chelsea Clinton is a private person and is deserving of her privacy.

Sincerely,



Michael D. McCurry
White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1995

Mr. Russell Smith
Editor
New York Press
295 Lafayette Street
The Puck Building, 9th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10012

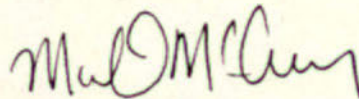
Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing about your article "Chelsea Riot Grrrl" in the December 7-13, 1994 issue of the New York Press and wanted to let you know my concern about this story.

As your contributing editor acknowledged, the piece is purely satirical and fictional and bears no relationship to any events or comments by Chelsea Clinton. Your readers and I appreciate the appropriate role of humor, but recognize the importance of upholding some standards of good taste and judgement. I therefore ask that your publication make it clear that any remarks or activities attributed to Chelsea Clinton were entirely the product of your writer's imagination, and not of Chelsea Clinton.

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Sincerely,



Michael D. McCurry
White House Press Secretary

Please note that this is a rush document. It is not yet in its final form.

SHOW: GMA
AIRDTE: 99/08/02
SEGMNT: 01
LENGTH:
STORY: TAX CUT BILL
STORY2: CONGRESS FACES SELF-IMPOSED DEADLINE ON TAX BILL
CORR: LINDA DOUGLASS
CORLOC: WASHINGTON, DC
ANCH: ANTONIO MORA
ANCLOC: NEW YORK, NY
TOPIC: TAX CUT / BILL / CONGRESS
<Guest:
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CONTENT:
07:00:00

DIANE SAWYER, ABC News

Hillary Clinton opens the door on those personal questions, her husband and other women, why she thinks he did it and why she stayed. It's in a new magazine called "Talk," and she does.

Good morning, America.

JAY SCHADLER, Correspondent

It is Monday, the second of August, 1999.

DIANE SAWYER

Hope you had a good weekend. August already? Time flies when you're getting up early, I guess. I'm here with my old PrimeTime pal Jay Schadler, correspondent, adventurer.

JAY SCHADLER

And I'm here with my old pal Diane...

DIANE SAWYER

That's it.

JAY SCHADLER

... since last week -- two weeks ago, how long ago was it? We were here two weeks ago.

DIANE SAWYER

Yes, two weeks ago we did. Nice to have you here.

JAY SCHADLER

Glad to be back. Charlie's on a brief vacation.

DIANE SAWYER

Yes, he'll be bronzed like Apollo by the time he comes back.

JAY SCHADLER

You got a little color too, yes.

DIANE SAWYER

Yes, little bit from this weekend.

Well, as we've been saying all morning, the phone lines have been ringing, the airwaves have been buzzing, all about Hillary Clinton's interview in "Talk" magazine, a brand-new magazine hitting the stands this week.

We're going to take you behind the scenes this morning. Editor in chief Tina Brown and the woman who interviewed Mrs. Clinton, Lucinda Franks, the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, will tell us more about what Mrs. Clinton said and what she meant in this article called "Intimate Hillary."

JAY SCHADLER

Also, for many in the middle part of the country and also here in the Northeast, this is the worst drought since the Depression, and we're going to have a report on that.

And then later, the harrowing story of rapes reported at the Woodstock 99 music festival just last week. We'll hear the dramatic account of a witness who saw several women being attacked.

DIANE SAWYER

But let's turn now to the rest of the news, the headlines, from Antonio Mora. Good morning, Antonio.

ANTONIO MORA, ABC News

Good morning, Diane, and good morning, everyone.

We begin with that candid interview the First Lady gave to "Talk" magazine. The White House calls the story "a positive piece," and it is not denying or challenging any of the quotes in it. Mrs. Clinton tells "Talk" that her husband's infidelity is linked to terrible conflict between his mother and his grandmother when he was just a toddler.

The First Lady says, yes, he has weaknesses, yes, he needs to be more responsible, more disciplined. But it is remarkable, given his background, that he turned out to be the kind of person he is, capable of such leadership.

In a few minutes, Diane speaks with "Talk" editor Tina Brown and the writer who interviewed Mrs. Clinton.

Monica Lewinsky's father says she is doing fine. Lewinsky was treated and released from a California hospital after suffering cuts and bruises after she lost control of her Ford Explorer on a freeway near Ventura. She was apparently looking for something in her purse when the accident happened. Police say no drugs or alcohol were involved.

The heat wave that has gripped much of the nation is now being

blamed for more than 190 deaths in 20 states. Temperatures have cooled in many areas, but heat advisories are still in effect for parts of the South. The Agriculture Department says the drought from the Northeast to the Midwest is the worst since the Great Depression.

FARMER

To be honest with you, all we do is a lot of praying. We pray a lot. Farmers do pray for water, there's no doubt about it.

ANTONIO MORA

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman gets a firsthand look at the bone-dry conditions today when he tours a farm in West Virginia.

A fiery train crash in a remote part of eastern India may have claimed as many as 500 lives and injured 1,000. Two trains collided head-on, then burst into flames. The BBC reports one of the trains was carrying military explosives. At least a dozen cars were ripped apart, and authorities are still digging through the wreckage. Officials believe a signal failure caused the accident.

Wen Ho Lee insists he is innocent of espionage. The former government scientist told CBS's "60 Minutes" he's being made a scapegoat and that he never passed nuclear information to the Chinese. He claims it was common for scientists at the Los Alamos nuclear weapons lab to transfer classified data to unsecured computers. Lee was fired last spring. Officials say he massively violated national security.

Atlanta gunman Mark Barton's youngest victims will be buried today. They are his children, 7-year-old Mychelle and 11-year-old Matthew. Barton's wife was buried yesterday. He killed them last week before gunning down nine people in a shooting spree at two brokerage offices.

Congress is facing a self-imposed deadline at the end of this week. Senate and House lawmakers need to come up with a final compromise version of a tax cut bill. ABC's Linda Douglass joins us live from Capitol Hill.

Good morning, Linda. How do you expect this process to play out?

LINDA DOUGLASS, ABC News

Well, the House and Senate both have passed an \$800 billion tax cut measure, but they would allocate that measure in very different ways. So they're going to have to work out their differences this week.

The House would cut taxes across the board, cut capital gains taxes. Some Senate Republicans say that tilts too much toward the wealthiest taxpayers, so they've got to work those differences out.

But then they send it to the President. He says he's going to veto any cut that large. He says it'll drive up deficits. So it is after the President's veto, probably next month, that the real negotiations will begin.

ANTONIO MORA

Linda, let's talk politics. Polls show most Americans don't care

much about a tax cut at this point, and that they want tougher gun control measures. Why are the Republicans on the other side of both of these issues, taking positions that don't seem to be terribly popular?

LINDA DOUGLASS

Well, of course, the people who respond to those poll questions are not necessarily the people who turn out to vote. Cutting taxes and gun owners' rights are core principles of the Republican Party.

And right now, the Congress, Republicans in Congress, are trying to appeal to their most dedicated Republican Party voters, the people who are most likely to turn out in next year's election, where control of the Congress is going to be up for grabs, Antonio.

ANTONIO MORA

Well, even so, after the Atlanta shootings, will there be renewed momentum for gun control on the Hill?

LINDA DOUGLASS

There is no question now that there is more pressure on Republicans in the House who are opposed to gun control measures to do at least something. And they're talking about doing a little something, although the question is whether it's going to be enough to satisfy Democrats and get anybody to vote for a compromise measure.

ANTONIO MORA

All right, thank you, Linda. Linda Douglass on Capitol Hill this morning.

And finally, there goes the sun. From northern Alaska, a sign that summer is waning. Today the sun will set there for the first time since the middle of May.

And that's the news at 7:06.

EOF999

SHOW: GMA

AIRDTE: 99/08/02

SEGMNT: 02

LENGTH:

STORY: HILLARY TALKS

STORY2: FIRST LADY TALKS ABOUT THE SEXUAL SCANDAL

CORR:

CORLOC:

ANCH: DIANE SAWYER

ANCLOC: NEW YORK, NY

TOPIC: HILLARY CLINTON / BILL CLINTON / SCANDAL

<Guest: TINA BROWN / LUCINDA FRANKS

<Type: INTERVIEW

<Time:
CONTENT:
07:07:00

DIANE SAWYER, Host

Well, it is a magazine that has hit the newsstands like a hand grenade. "Talk," which is -- editor said she wanted to "roll up and down the high-low keyboard," from Gwyneth Paltrow slinking in leather to an article saying U.N. chief Kofi Annan impeded the effort to uncover weapons in Iraq.

But the torrent of headlines this morning, as you've already heard, Hillary Rodham Clinton offering the first glimpse behind the curtain drawn around her private life with the president and husband who handed her a sexual scandal.

With us this morning, the nervy powerhouse of the magazine world, first behind "Vanity Fair," then "The New Yorker," and now "Talk" editor in chief Tina Brown. And Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Lucinda Franks, who gained unprecedented access to the First Lady.

By way of full disclosure, we want to tell you that "Talk" magazine is backed in part by Miramax, which is owned by ABC's parent company, Disney.

But we are here this morning because it is the talk of the town everywhere.

Good to see you both. Thanks for coming in.

Tina, she said she'd never do this. She said she would not talk about these things, that the zone of privacy would stay intact. Why did she talk?

TINA BROWN, Editor in Chief, "Talk" Magazine

A combination, I think, of timing, respect for the journalist who asked her, Lucinda, a feeling that -- of frustration, perhaps, that the world just didn't seem to get her after all these long months of being in the public eye.

DIANE SAWYER

There is some -- already this morning, there is some sort of veiled criticism, because her good friend Harvey Weinstein is head of Miramax, that it must have been a deal, there must have been an arrangement of some kind. Any ground rules at all, any negotiated rules?

TINA BROWN

No, you know, Harvey Weinstein had zero to do with this piece at all. I mean, this piece was all brought about because our writer, Lucinda, here, had for some time been making requests to speak to Mrs. Clinton.

This really began because Lucinda had put a lot of time and

assiduous, really, work in bringing about a sense with the First Lady that she would be the person to speak to when and if Mrs. Clinton was ever ready.

DIANE SAWYER

Is it a favorable interview?

TINA BROWN

I think the piece is a very, very intimate and warm portrait of Mrs. Clinton, in the sense that it really brings her alive as a three-dimensional woman in ways that I don't think anyone's been able to do before. In that sense, I think you are left with a positive impression, a positive impression because she lives and breathes and is complicated for the first time.

DIANE SAWYER

All right, Lucinda, let's talk about some of the things that are making the headlines this morning. For those of you at home who haven't read it yet, and that'll be many of you, since it isn't on the stands until this week, let's show you this paragraph that has intrigued people perhaps the most.

When she's talking about a framework for his behavior, here is what she said. "He was so young, barely 4, when he was scarred by abuse that he can't even take it out and look at it. There was a terrible conflict between his mother and his grandmother. A psychologist once told me that for a boy, being in the middle of a conflict between two women is the worst possible situation. There is always a desire to please each one."

What was she talking about? What is -- what kind of abuse between his mother, grandmother? What was this?

LUCINDA FRANKS, Contributing Writer, "Talk" Magazine
Well, you know, Diane, you can find this in Virginia Kelly's autobiography. She has a very powerful episode that she talks about her mother, and she -- pulling, literally pulling Bill apart. One person, one woman, had him by the legs, and the other person had him by the shoulders.

They fought over him for custody. They fought over his upbringing. He was always trying to please one. When his mother disappeared, he would stay with his grandmother, with great structure, and then...

DIANE SAWYER

And she seems to be saying...

LUCINDA FRANKS

... unstructured with his mother.

DIANE SAWYER

And what does she seem to be saying about the psychology, the imprint of this psychology?

LUCINDA FRANKS

I think -- you know, I think all of this is probably speculation on

her part. But I think this is the narrative by which she has lived with this marriage, which is quite wonderful in its -- you know, in its interdependence of conversation, of ideas, of excitement, of chemistry, sexual chemistry.

DIANE SAWYER

I notice that you say that you use the word "addiction," she doesn't correct you at first.

LUCINDA FRANKS

No.

DIANE SAWYER

And then later on, and we're going to put another quote up here, she says, "That," meaning "addiction," "is your word. I would say 'weakness.'" And then at another point, "You know, in Christian theology, there are sins of weakness and sins of malice. And this was a sin of weakness."

And you say that his friends are saying that after...

LUCINDA FRANKS

Yes, yes.

DIANE SAWYER

... the presidency, he will get therapy and treatment for this.

LUCINDA FRANKS

This is the hope and the belief. He has certainly had a lot of support, religious support, the support from friends, to talk this out. He understands he has a problem. He understands that he doesn't want to have this problem. Indeed, there is a great big stretch in which he didn't have the problem.

I think he's devoted to his wife. I think she is devoted to him. And I think they have an incredible relationship. But I think that everyone tries to put a stereotype on people's marriages, and you can't put a stereotype on some marriages, (inaudible)...

DIANE SAWYER

I'm curious, Tina, as an editor, when you were reading through it, what was it -- what was the single revelation, I guess, that most surprised you about her?

TINA BROWN

I think the revelation of the piece, really, is the depth and deeply powerful bond these two people have. At the end of the piece, I really felt I understood the marriage of the Clintons. I mean, there are many people in the last year or two have been so reductive about their marriage. There have been so many attempts to cast aspersions on her, in a sense, for standing by him.

But I think when you read the piece, you understand why this woman is in love with this man. You understand that she really has such a deep, you know, level of shared interest, of shared passions, not in a shallow way, in the sense that people very often put her down as a sort of -- wanting to stay Mrs. Clinton because she is in the power

zone.

I don't -- when you read the piece, you don't feel that at all. What you feel is, this is a couple who share the passion for the world, for doing good, for politics, for making life better for other people. This is their great bond, and it really has brought them together with almost a sort of spiritual intensity.

LUCINDA FRANKS

And you can see this. And people that are close to them see this kind of chemistry. I mean, it's a real love, and...

DIANE SAWYER

Well, you quote, it's amazing, her chief of staff saying the physical passion has returned to the marriage.

LUCINDA FRANKS

Yes, yes.

DIANE SAWYER

I don't know that a chief of staff in history as far as I know...

LUCINDA FRANKS

Well, I think what happened...

DIANE SAWYER

... has ever taken a...

LUCINDA FRANKS

Right, exactly.

DIANE SAWYER

... stand on this (inaudible).

LUCINDA FRANKS

I think they see them, like Marian Rezell (ph), I think they see them in the corner, you know, putting their arms around each other, smooching, you know, sharing, whispering. It's -- his sexual dysfunction is something, I think, that she has put in a -- one part of the marriage, in which she says, My God, with this upbringing, that this man could do what he does is remarkable.

DIANE SAWYER

I noticed the New York tabloids this morning are taking a poll on one part of your piece, whether people believe one thing she said. And I'm going to run through these quotes again.

That, "You know, we did have a very good stretch, years and years of nothing," meaning after Gennifer Flowers and before Monica Lewinsky. "I thought this was resolved 10 years ago, I thought he had conquered it. I thought he understood it, but he didn't go deep enough or work hard enough."

Did you talk to her about any specific women and specific allegations, Kathleen Willey?

LUCINDA FRANKS

I did not. I did not feel -- I felt that part of it was an invasion of her privacy. I felt, you know, ethically as a journalist, that this had been covered and covered and covered and covered. And I

also feel that many of these encounters are -- began way back in Arkansas, when women would throw themselves at him, even at Yale.

I mean, he is a very handsome man, and he looked like a Beatle back in Yale. You can see pictures of him. I mean, he was gorgeous.

You had women, even stars, who tried to get what they could out of being close to him, pretending they had an affair with him.

So a lot of this has been taken with a grain of salt, I think.

DIANE SAWYER

Because Tina, as you know, Matt Drudge on the Internet this morning is saying that, in fact, you were personally involved in making sure that any mention of Juanita Broadrick, who claimed some 20 years ago that he had raped her, that it was not mentioned either in the questioning or in the piece.

TINA BROWN

That's totally untrue. I don't know where Drudge got that from. That is not true. No, Lucinda was able to ask anything she wished. And (inaudible)...

DIANE SAWYER

But did you all agree in advance not to go into specifics and not to press her on...

TINA BROWN

Oh, no, not at all.

DIANE SAWYER

... what she knew when?

TINA BROWN

Not at all. No, I think that Lucinda really, you know, talked to Mrs. Clinton and got Mrs. Clinton to discuss things that no one else has been able to get her to discuss. And I think that she went a very long way in doing so.

I think she was enormously brave in doing so, too, and I think that her decision to do so was a terrifically sort of, you know, something to be really admired. I mean, she wanted to get this over with and out. I think that she felt -- when she felt that people didn't get her, I think she knows that she's now entering a Senate race where it's very important that people understand who she is.

And this woman is not a victim and doesn't want to be seen as a victim. She wanted to make that clear. She wanted to say, This is a marriage that has had its difficulties. We've worked through it, and we've worked it out, and it's a marriage I believe in.

DIANE SAWYER

Well, one final quote I want to show everybody, and it's number five for you in the control room. You really put the Senate race in the context of the revival of the marriage, in a way, and her way to get to firm ground so that she can stay alive inside this marriage.

And she says at one point, "I want independence. I want to be judged on my own merits. Now for the first time, I'm making my own

decisions. I can feel the difference. It's a great relief." And you quote people saying after eight months, basically, of not speaking to him, what brought her back after acting like someone had died, was this Senate race.

LUCINDA FRANKS

That's true, absolutely true.

DIANE SAWYER

So that the Senate race is linked to the marriage...

LUCINDA FRANKS

I saw this, I thought -- in North Africa, I thought she was very depressed. It was probably a number of things, Kosovo, the Broadrick allegations, it was just too much. I mean, this woman had been attacked and attacked and attacked. Her husband had been attacked and attacked.

And it was her husband that really wanted her to finally go out on her own, to seek public office like she had wanted to for a very long time. So this was her chance. I would find it exciting if I were her.

DIANE SAWYER

Again, it's a fascinating kaleidoscope as you see the world through her eyes and do get, as we say, just a glimpse behind the veil of this marriage.

We thank you both for coming in. The magazine is full of a lot of other articles. We're going to talk about some of them later on at 8:00 with Tina Brown, including George W. Bush using a four-letter word that I don't think I've heard a presidential candidate use in a long time.

More of that just ahead.

(Commercial Break)

(Local News)

(Commercial Break)

EOF999

SHOW: GMA

AIRDTE: 99/08/02

SEGMNT: 03

LENGTH:

STORY: NATIONAL NEWS

STORY2: NEWS ITEMS FROM AROUND THE NATION

CORR:

CORLOC:

ANCH: ANTONIO MORA

ANCLOC: NEW YORK, NY

TOPIC: DROUGHT / HILLARY CLINTON / PESTICIDES

<Guest:

<Type: PACKAGE

<Time:

CONTENT:

07:30:00

DIANE SAWYER, Host

Happy Monday, everyone. Good Morning America continues. I'm Diane Sawyer.

JAY SCHADLER, Host

And I'm Jay Schadler, in for Charles Gibson.

DIANE SAWYER

And coming up, we are going to continue our political theme this morning with an insider's look at a presidential campaign, how candidates warm themselves up to voters, finding the best lines, delivering the one-liners, helps, if you can.

And ABC's political analyst George Stephanopoulos is going to show us behind -- some of the tactics just ahead. In fact, he got behind the scenes with Dan Quayle as he was heading out to go on one of the nighttime shows.

JAY SCHADLER

Pretty thin line there between humor and politics, don't you think?

DIANE SAWYER

Yes.

JAY SCHADLER

Yes. Plus, it was a weekend in Atlanta for funerals, unfortunately. So many people and memories to honor from the lives lost in the madness of a gunman's rampage.

DIANE SAWYER

We've also been looking into the harrowing stories of rapes reported at Woodstock 99. We're also going to hear from Lance Armstrong's wife, Kristin. She's pregnant. We're going to hear how they planned their family around his treatment for cancer.

But let's turn once again to the news. Here's Antonio Mora.

ANTONIO MORA, ABC News

All right, thank you, Diane, and good morning, everyone.

The Agriculture Department says the drought in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states is the worst since the Great Depression, and the recent heat wave is being blamed for more than 190 deaths in 20 states.

Hillary Clinton is linking her husband's infidelity with his boyhood. In the new magazine "Talk," the First Lady says Mr. Clinton's behavior stems from his desire as a boy to please both his

feuding mother and grandmother. But she also calls the president "a very, very good man."

Government regulators say they are taking major actions to minimize the risk of pesticide exposure. The Environmental Protection Agency today will ban the use of one pesticide and sharply limit the use of another. The EPA says the chemicals can damage the brain and nervous system.

A new study shows that a positive attitude may actually help your heart. Researchers in Pittsburgh found that heart patients who had low self-esteem and felt helpless were more likely to experience recurring coronary problems.

And finally, now to the movies, where the reunion of Julia Roberts and Richard Gere was a runaway hit over the weekend. "The Runaway Bride" opened, raking in an estimated \$34.5 million. The low-budget thriller "Blair Witch Project" took the number two spot. And the high-tech shark tale "Deep Blue Sea" made a big splash in third place.

Those are the headlines at 7:32.
(Weather)

EOF999

SHOW: GMA
AIRDTE: 99/08/02
SEGMNT: 04
LENGTH:
STORY: POLITICS AND COMEDY
STORY2: THE LINE BETWEEN COMEDY AND POLITICS
CORR: GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
CORLOC: NEW YORK, NY
ANCH: JAY SCHADLER
ANCLOC: NEW YORK, NY
TOPIC: POLITICS / COMEDY / PRESIDENCY
<Guest:
<Type: PACKAGE
<Time:
CONTENT:
07:33:00

JAY SCHADLER, Host

This morning, ABC News political analyst George Stephanopoulos joins us to talk about politics and late-night comedy shows, and we're

going to get to that in a moment.

But first let's talk just briefly about this Hillary interview.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, ABC News Political Analyst
Thought we might talk about that (inaudible).

JAY SCHADLER

We might get to that right away. Let me ask you a quick question about whether or not that you think that this sounds like the Hillary you know, George.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Oh, I think it does. I mean, one of the striking things about the interview is that you -- I think you really do see Hillary's private rationalizations and private thoughts. The surprising thing, of course, is that she decided to share that with the world.

JAY SCHADLER

Yes, I mean, what about that? I mean, what -- did that surprise you that she goes public with this private stuff?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

It did a little. Well, half of it surprised me. I think that the idea of laying out how she felt, why she stood by the President, as she ran into a Senate campaign of her home (ph) was a requirement.

I think the surprising thing, and a lot of people in the White House were surprised by this, is how much she said, and particularly things like the president was scarred by abuse as a child, because that raises all kinds of red flags.

And I know that in the White House Saturday night and Sunday morning, they were calling all over creation to get a copy of this interview, because they wanted to know what they -- what she said so they could figure out how to respond.

JAY SCHADLER

They were upset with Hillary?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Upset, I think, is too strong, just that you can't be too upset with the First Lady...

JAY SCHADLER

No, she is (inaudible)...

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

... she is almost the boss.

JAY SCHADLER

... right.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

But they really wanted to know how to handle it. And they went really into the bunker Sunday morning as they waited to see the article, read it, and now have finally come up with, I think, a pretty smart strategy to deal with it.

JAY SCHADLER

I mean, we can be cynical about this. But don't you think it has

some just real advantage? In some ways it was a gutsy thing for her to do. It's a very frank thing for her to do.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Couple of advantages. It does show a real side of Mrs. Clinton. Secondly, she heads into the Senate campaign. She laid out all of the -- all of her story and said, I've answered that already.

JAY SCHADLER

Right.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

The downside -- there are probably two downsides. Number one, she did raise this question of abuse, leads to a lot of questions. My bet is that in the White House press room today, the press secretary, Joe Lockhart's going to have to answer, What did she mean by abuse?

And then secondly, it does feed into this whole notion of that this has gone on too long, this cliché of Clinton fatigue. When is this stuff just going to go away?

JAY SCHADLER

And it's still a definition of her through him, in a fashion.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

In a fashion, although it's her starting to step out on her own.

JAY SCHADLER

All right. You have been preparing a small report on the line between politics and humor, which is a pretty thin one.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Sometimes.

JAY SCHADLER

You followed Dan Quayle, I guess, right?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Dan Quayle, yes. First of all, I don't think Mrs. Clinton's going to go on any late-night talk shows. But Dan Quayle did.

JAY SCHADLER

OK.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Just a couple weeks ago he went on Leno, and he allowed us to go behind the scenes with him as he prepared to go on the show. And you know what, he's really following in a long tradition of politicians who try to control damage, deflect criticism, with humor, warm themselves up.

And it started out with, of all people, Richard Nixon, who was a real pioneer in all this, so we should probably take a look.

JAY SCHADLER

Let's take a look at that.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) In 1968, presidential candidate Richard Nixon startled the political world with a bit of prime time comedy.

(clip from "Laugh-In," 1968)

ACTRESS

I don't think we could get Mr. Nixon to stand still for a "Sock it to me."

RICHARD NIXON

Sock it to me?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Nixon's handlers figured that punch line showed a new Nixon, a regular guy who kind of liked getting kicked around. And "Laugh-In" loved it.

GEORGE SCHLATTER, Producer, "Laugh-In"

And he was very charming, and it went on the air, and a lot of people said, Hey, he's not such a bad, you know, guy after all, and they voted for him. Damn!

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Call it a win-win. "Laugh-In" got viewers, Nixon got votes. Which may explain why, since Nixon's day, nearly everyone has gotten in the act.

(VO) Bill Clinton on Arsenio Hall, Rudy Giuliani in a dress on "Saturday Night Live."

Mayor RUDOLPH GIULIANI, New York City

(clip from "Saturday Night Live") They broke my Mayflower!

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Al Gore mocking himself on "Letterman."

Vice Pres. AL GORE

(clip from "Late Night With David Letterman") How about this one? I'm so stiff ...

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Why do these guys do this?

MARK KATZ, Political Joke Writer

It's the same dynamic from junior high school. You know, everyone wants to be in on the joke, and no one wants the joke to be about them.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Which brings us to Dan Quayle. He let us go behind the scenes as he prepared to go into the belly of the beast, "The Tonight Show."

FRED DAVIS

He doesn't stare at the audience, he doesn't stare at the camera, but he plays a little bit to all of them.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) The prep took place in the Hollywood home of Quayle's image guru, now his joke coach, Fred Davis.

FRED DAVIS

There's a new show-the-real-Dan Quayle-to-the-world under way just in the last few weeks.

(on phone) The kickoff time has always been tonight.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) And Davis has left nothing to chance.

FRED DAVIS

Maybe if you -- we can take a peek at that tape.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) He negotiates with Leno's team. They create a script that looks spontaneous, all before convincing Quayle that this really is a good idea.

FRED DAVIS

There are millions of people watching. We want them to know that you're a smart guy. These are just the goals that I would like to accomplish, that he's smart, that he's a good guy, what the real Dan Quayle's like, that he can laugh at himself, with himself, et cetera, and that he can still win this election.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) They start by sizing up the competition.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

Difficult interview, (inaudible)...

FRED DAVIS

Yes. There he was trying really hard.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Then they review draft jokes from the "Tonight Show" writers.

FRED DAVIS

It's a nice cute part.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Cutting the touchy ones.

FRED DAVIS

"I'm not a great speller, but I'm a whiz at math." I don't think we need to do that one, really.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) They finally settle on a story inspired by -- who else? -- Richard Nixon.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

He warned me early on in the Bush administration, he says, "When you have a very popular president, they're going to go after the vice president." It happened to him during the Eisenhower administration. And for three and a half years, George Bush was an exceedingly popular president. So guess who they picked on?

And that's why I've contended that Al Gore's the luckiest darn vice president in the history of America.

FRED DAVIS

I think you should tell that.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Davis cues up Nixon's joke. Then the vice president calls the "Tonight Show" himself. Fred helps.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

But I'd cut out the other tapes, because I think you want as much just conversation between us.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Heading to the studio, Quayle tries some preemptive spin.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

Having been in politics, there'll probably be compromise. That means they'll get a little...

FRED DAVIS

(inaudible) one take.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

... they'll get a little, I'll get a little, and everyone will be happy, and there'll be all smiles.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) But when they arrive...

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

All rightie.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) ... he knows this probably won't go according to script. And Davis calms himself by coaching Quayle.

FRED DAVIS

Don't think too hard. You know, just be you.

JAY LENO

Please welcome Vice President Dan Quayle, ladies and gentlemen.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) And it worked. Quayle showed he could take a joke...

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

Look at how they spelled my name. There's no "e" on the end.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) ... squeezed in the Nixon story...

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

... and that's why I've said that Al Gore's got to be the luckiest vice president in the history of America.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) ... and won praise from Jay.

JAY LENO

Thank you for being a good sport. And please come see us again, sir.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) Backstage, Fred seemed pleased...

FRED DAVIS

Still home run, home run, (inaudible).

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) ... Quayle, just relieved.

Vice Pres. DAN QUAYLE

Hopefully it came across as a -- somebody that -- who can, you know, take a punch, that can laugh at mistakes and go on.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) As for Leno, he's already moving on.

JAY LENO

You know, what drives Steve Forbes? A chauffeur, that's what drives Steve Forbes. But, you know, they're all -- they want to be the regular guy, and we try to be sort of a blue collar show, and it's just sort of, come on, sit back and talk and let's have fun.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

(VO) So everyone's happy, which may mean, of course, that the joke's on us.

FRED DAVIS

Don't tell anybody, it'll just be a little surprise.

JAY SCHADLER

You know, when you see Leno come on there, then you know that you're looking at a real funny man, right?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

No question about it.

JAY SCHADLER

(inaudible), that's such a forced thing in so many ways, isn't it?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

It's forced, but, you know, if you're just sitting at home late at night and you see Quayle come up, and is able to poke fun at himself, as Lafin Proozzer (ph) said a long time ago, you like the guy a little better.

JAY SCHADLER

You don't look at that and say, Oh, this is just another piece of manipulation?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Oh, I certainly do, (inaudible)...

JAY SCHADLER

(inaudible)

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

... how much is there, but it can make a difference. People want to see every different side of you. And if you have a sense of humor, you win some votes.

JAY SCHADLER

Dan Quayle needs a sense of humor.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

He sure does. He needs a lot of help too.

JAY SCHADLER

All right.

(Commercial Break)

EOF999

SHOW: GMA
AIRDTE: 99/08/02
SEGMNT: 05
LENGTH:
STORY: ATLANTA MOURNS SHOOTING VICTIMS
STORY2: A WEEKEND OF SADNESS
CORR: DON DAHLER
CORLOC: ATLANTA, GA
ANCH: DIANE SAWYER
ANCLOC: NEW YORK, NY
TOPIC:
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<Type: PACKAGE
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CONTENT:
07:45:00

DIANE SAWYER, Host

Yesterday near Atlanta, a funeral was held for Leigh Ann Barton, the wife and first victim of Mark Barton's murderous rampage last week. Barton's two children, Matthew and Mychelle Barton, will be buried today.

You'll remember hearing how Barton terrorized Atlanta, leaving 12 dead in the bloodiest mass slaying in that city's history.

Well, this weekend friends and family mourned those lost in an event that is still enshrouded by mystery and madness. National correspondent Don Dahler has the latest.

DON DAHLER, National Correspondent

(VO) It was a weekend of private sadness and public mourning. Jan Mishad Havash (ph), an engineer who had only recently taken up the avocation of day trading, was laid to rest, yet another victim from last Thursday's deadly rampage.

The family and friends of Vadawate Muraledhara (ph) buried the woman who was trying to change her life for the better by taking computer classes in the offices where Mark Barton decided to wreak his revenge. She'd only lived in Atlanta four months.

Alan Charles Tennenbaum (ph), an Atlanta grocer who was trying to make his family a little more money on the stock market, was buried on Friday. In attendance were his three children.

Russell Brown was 42. He was a math whiz, according to his mother, and was so kind he wouldn't kill a bug. He'll be laid to rest later today.

Two thousand people, most of them from Atlanta's Muslim community, attended services for Dene Delawala (ph). He was a day trader working at the All-Tech brokerage firm when Barton began shooting. He leaves behind, among many friends and family, a 15-year-old son and a 4-year-old daughter.

Edward Quinn left two sons and a family devastated by the loss. After a memorial service, his family and friends marched up the road under the blazing Georgia sun to the building where Quinn lost his life to lay flowers commemorating the place and the moment when their lives were changed forever.

If Mark Barton wanted to cause terror and pain on that day when he took out his rage on others, if he wanted to rob parents and children of that which they hold most dear, the tears on these thousands of faces tell the sad story. He succeeded.

(on camera) As for the other clients, Joseph Dessert (ph), a brokerage client -- excuse me, as for the other victims, Joseph Dessert, a brokerage client, will be laid to rest tomorrow. Thirty-year-old Scott Webb (ph) was cremated last Friday.

And Kevin Dial, the manager of Momentum Securities, will be buried later today. If there's one small good from all of this, it's this, his family believes. Dial had been diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor, and they believe, ironically, Barton may have spared him from suffering.

Diane?

DIANE SAWYER

All right, our thanks to Don Dahler. Tragedy all around.
(Commercial Break)

DIANE SAWYER

We've got a kind of program note for you about tonight. ABC Sports has something pretty spectacular, a battle of the titans, the two best golfers in the world, Tiger Woods and David Duvall (ph), are going to go...

JAY SCHADLER, Host

(inaudible)

DIANE SAWYER

... one on one.

JAY SCHADLER

... it's a classic matchup, sort of the very buoyant and powerful Tiger Woods, and then Dave Duvall is methodical, and he's focused. And they're going head to head tonight in prime time, first time ever, I guess, in prime time television for a golf tournament.

DIANE SAWYER

Right. Yes, they've never ended up that way. And the winner will take home \$1.1 million, not a bad night, sort of.

JAY SCHADLER

Not a bad night. We should say, some of that's going to charity, I think, \$200,000.

DIANE SAWYER

Yes. And it's going to begin at 8 P.M. Eastern time. Our friends at ABC Sports will be there to cover it tonight.

JAY SCHADLER

And this is an all-programming notes section here. Bruce Willis is coming up later this week, you're going to be...

DIANE SAWYER

That's right, Cybill Shepherd (ph), not related, but coming up too...

JAY SCHADLER

No, we don't know that for sure.

DIANE SAWYER

... she's going to talk about...

JAY SCHADLER

And on Friday...

DIANE SAWYER

... women dealing with menopause, she is.

JAY SCHADLER

And also on Friday, you are going to be in Central Park again with singer Mark Anthony (ph).

DIANE SAWYER

Right, a voice right from heaven, Mark Anthony.
(Commercial Break)

DIANE SAWYER

The editor of the new "Talk" magazine will be back in just a few minutes to talk with us again.

But we like to give you a preview of the weekly newsmagazines every week, so here we are...

JAY SCHADLER

(inaudible) today...

DIANE SAWYER

... on the cover...

JAY SCHADLER

... "Time" magazine this week is going to be the Atlanta massacre.

DIANE SAWYER

Plastic surgery on "Newsweek." And "Inside the Teenage Brain," "U.S. News and World Report" has solved the mystery? I don't think so.

JAY SCHADLER

The violent legacy of Woodstock, coming up.

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CBS News Transcripts

5/26/99
60 Mins. II
w/ HRC +
Dan Rather

SHOW: 60 MINUTES II (8:00 PM ET)

May 26, 1999, Wednesday

TYPE: Interview

LENGTH: 4321 words

HEADLINE: HILLARY; FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON ON HER HUSBAND, THEIR YEARS IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND A POSSIBLE SENATE RUN

ANCHORS: DAN RATHER

BODY:

HILLARY

DAN RATHER, co-host:

She is a woman on a first-name basis with the world. First lady Hillary Clinton is a political superstar. She has a history of making history, and tonight she's on vacation in Florida, deciding whether to do it again, this time by making a run for the United States Senate in New York.

We sat down together a few days ago and she talked her future and her recent past. She outlined what she believes in, what she hopes for, and how she's gotten through the hard times in the White House. As she prepares for a life after the White House, a life she now insists will be in New York, Mrs. Clinton is also steeling herself for tough questions from political friends and foes, and from the New York media.

And here's a tough question, one that you're gonna be asked repeatedly, time and again, and you're eventually going to have to answer. For whom do you root: the Mets or Yankees?

Mrs. HILLARY CLINTON: That's a very good question. You know, I just love baseball. So the politic answer is that, since I do plan to live in New York, no matter what I end up doing, I'll root for both.

RATHER: Ah, but you know New York. New York in many ways is split between those who cheer...

Mrs. CLINTON: I know.

RATHER: ...for the Mets and those who cheer for the Yankees.

Mrs. CLINTON: I know.

RATHER: So, I have to pressure you to come back. Mets or Yankees, Mrs. Clinton?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know Dan, that's one of those questions that I probably am gonna have to give serious thought to, to give you a final answer.

(Footage of Hillary Clinton walking with Dan Rather)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Hillary Rodham Clinton hasn't answered many questions in the past year and a half. Now even the easy questions have complicated answers. But, then, she's pretty complicated herself.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From previous video) You know, I suppose I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas, but what I decided to do was to fulfill my profession, which I entered before my husband was in public life, and I've tried very, very hard to be as careful as possible, and that's all I can tell you.

RATHER: Once, a political lightning rod...

Unidentified Announcer: (From graduation video) Hillary Rodham Clinton!

(Footage of Clinton at graduation; audience at graduation; Clinton waving to everyone)

RATHER: (Voiceover) ...today, she is political lightning, a crowd-pleaser and first-class fund-raiser, a person under enormous pressure to step into the arena, this time on her own.

Let's talk about the New York Senate race. We can't do this interview and not talk about it.

Mrs. CLINTON: Right.

RATHER: So it's in the papers again now. You've made up your mind to run. It's just a matter of time or an announcement. Is that a fair description of where you are?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, not really. I'm still thinking about it. People are still talking to me about it. I've been very flattered by the people who've come to me and asked me to consider it, and I'm obviously very interested. It's such a big decision. You know, a--a year ago it had never crossed my mind. Even six months ago, it wasn't anything that I'd ever thought about, but I'm very committed to, you know, learning about a lot of different issues that I've worked on all my life, and how they affect people in New York, because I think that, you know, everything that happens in America happens in New York. And as I've listened to people and talked with them, the kinds of things I care about: education and health care, better jobs, better, you know, balance between work and family, the kinds of issues that I think are gonna be on the front burner in the years to come are ones that are of great concern to New Yorkers and of great concern to me.

RATHER: Why New York? Why not Illinois or Arkansas, where you spent a lot of you time?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know, I never would have predicted that this event could have occurred, that I would be considering this, but people came to me and asked me to consider it. And of course, I'd been thinking about and talking to Bill about, you know, living there after we finish in the White House. I think that both of us would really enjoy that. So it just all kind of came together, and that's why I'm--I'm pursuing it and considering it so seriously.

(Footage of Clinton with the president; Clinton holding a baby; Clinton posing for the cameras)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She talks like a candidate, and she walks like a candidate, and she kisses babies with the best of them. But she remains stubbornly coy about whether she'll run and when she'll decide.

RATHER: You really haven't made the final decision?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, I haven't. I haven't.

RATHER: Have you made a final decision to at least launch an exploratory committee?

Mrs. CLINTON: No. I've considered that carefully. And that would be the next step that I would take, if I go forward.

(Footage of Clinton with the president and Chelsea on Election Night 1992; Clinton with baby in foreign country; Clinton with refugees; Clinton in a classroom; Clinton with Senator Charles Schumer)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She has been pushing forward and pushing the envelope since Election Night 1992, building a reputation here, and abroad, for her work with women, children and families. She has gone the extra mile to visit refugees, returned home to push for public schools, and crisscrossed the country to campaign for Democratic candidates and causes.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From previous video) More than 35 million households across America have guns. And in a third of those homes, the guns are stored loaded and unlocked.

(Footage of Clinton giving speech about gun control at Columbine High School)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Since the killings at Columbine High School, she has waded into the war over gun control, and led the national grieving.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From Columbine speech) What happened here at Columbine has so deeply affected the rest of our country that we are all Columbine.

(Footage of Clinton and the president at Littleton)

RATHER: (Voiceover) On the day we met, those issues were on her mind again. She and the president had spent a long day in Littleton, Colorado, meeting with parents who lost children in the violence at Columbine High.

What can you say to them? What do you say to them?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, Dan, it's--it's one of the hardest things Bill and I have to do. And, you know, we've had to do too much of it in the last six and a half years. You know, today we did a lot of hugging, a lot of saying how sorry we were. We looked at a lot of mementos, and then we talked about what we could learn from this, and what we could do to try to make sure it never happened again, if that were humanly possible.

RATHER: Tell me what you talked about.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, a lot of them have, you know, been thinking hard about what they could do to give meaning to this. You know, they don't want their children to have died in vain, and neither do we. So some said 'Well, we hope that parents will just hold their kids tight and spend time with them.' And a lot of the parents wanted to go out and speak to other parents about how precious this time with children is. Some were very anxious to talk about the need for better gun laws and then to enforce those laws, to make sure that, you know, people didn't get away breaking laws, and whatever new ones we needed should be passed and implemented.

Some wanted to talk about the culture and what we could try to do to send stronger signals about how to really turn this culture around, this culture of violence that people have, I think, rightly talked about. So there were so many different ideas. But what was so heartening to both Bill and me is how, in the midst of such an enormous tragedy, you know, that neither of us could even comprehend, these people were looking for hope and meaning. They really want America to not just have the feeling of hurt and sorrow that we all feel, but to do something with that feeling, and to really make some of the changes that could make a difference.

RATHER: Colorado, like many states in the West, Southwest, South, is in some ways, a gun culture. I mean, people here grow up with guns. Guns are pervasive. Was there any talk of that?

Mrs. CLINTON: I think that there was talk about the need for better gun laws, and to implement them. But, you know, America's become a gun culture in many respects. We have so many guns. And I was pleased that the Senate did pass some meaningful gun legislation, and I hope that they'll continue to do more, and I hope the House will agree. And that, you know, we will close loopholes. And that we will make a very clear statement that we're not going to permit guns to fall into the hands of disturbed or criminal juveniles or anyone else for that matter.

(Footage of Clinton and the president in Littleton)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She says that if she runs for the Senate, it will be because of what she's learned in places like Littleton, and in spite of what she's lived through in Washington.

Question, Mrs. Clinton: With all that you've been through in politics, you know, virtually under siege for at least the last year and a half, why in the world would you want to go into that kind of campaign...

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know...

RATHER: ...particularly in a tough state like New York?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know Dan, I--you know I just spent the afternoon listening to people who'd suffered an unspeakable tragedy, losing their children in the Columbine High School killings, and they wanted to talk about what we could do together. They wanted to talk about how we could bring people together to solve our problems. They were not filled with bitterness or hatred. They were filled with hope and positive energy.

And I respond to that. I've--I'm someone who thinks that, you know, we are so blessed to live in this country. And, for me, having an opportunity to serve in the United States Senate, if that's what I were to decide to do and were fortunate enough for the people of New York to give me that chance, would enable me to work with people and bring people together and try to solve problems that were on people's minds.

(Footage of Clinton and family with dog)

RATHER: (Voiceover) But what's on the minds of many Americans is her marriage and the personal troubles that have been played out so painfully, so publicly.

President BILL CLINTON: (From previous video) These allegations are false.

RATHER: In a year and a half of denials and details and DNA, she has maintained her silence.

You know, you never met anybody who wants to respect your privacy more than I do...

Mrs. CLINTON: Thank you.

RATHER: ...but you're a very public person...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: And sooner or later in New York, they're gonna say, 'Why are you still with this man?'

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, you know, we've been together for, I guess, 28 years. We've been married--we'll be married 24 years this year. And we have a deep and abiding commitment to one another. And it is something that has been part of our lives, really, almost from the time we met. And, you know, I'm--I'm old-fashioned enough not to talk about my private life, and I respect your respect for it, but I--I think that, you know, I look back on all of those years together and it's just something that means a great deal to both of us.

RATHER: Given what you've been through the last year and a half or two years, did you ever consider leaving him?

Mrs. CLINTON: I'm not going to talk about that. I--I respect you, Dan, but I'm not going to answer those questions.

(Footage of Clinton talking to Rather; Washington, DC; Clinton at the State of the Union address)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She doesn't bat an eye, and she doesn't give an inch. She has set firm boundaries that she doesn't want broken. And whether she runs for Senate or not, she is already on a campaign to make Americans define public and private the way she does.

Pres. CLINTON: (From State of the Union address) In her historic role to serve our nation and our best ideals...

RATHER: But in the Clinton White House, public and private, his past and her future, are hard to separate.

If you were to run and if you were to be elected, you would walk into the United States Senate, famous or infamous, depending upon your point of view, as being a pit of deal-making compromise. And you'd be walking into a Senate in which a large number of the senators were the same senators who had put your husband on trial and, indeed, tried to run both of you out of Washington, for all intents and purposes.

Mrs. CLINTON: But, you know, it is the United States Senate. It's part of the most important legislative body, I would argue, in the history of the world. And there are a lot of good things and there are a lot of good people who are working hard together. And, you know, after all the years that I've been in Washington, and after all the difficulties and the challenges that you refer to, you know, I still really believe that we are blessed to be Americans and that public service is a privilege.

So I'm not at all discouraged or pessimistic about the political process. I just know how tough it is. I know a lot more about that than I did before I got to Washington.

RATHER: And much of what she learned came during the impeachment of her husband. In a moment, the first lady speaks personally about that, about how she survived it, and about the messages sent to young people in America by the president's behavior.

(Announcements)

RATHER: Polls show she is one of the most admired women in America, but even after seven years in the spotlight, she remains a riddle for many people. It's hard to know what keeps her going: through marital problems made public; political fights turned ugly; through triumphs, disasters, and always the demands of her work. Tonight we get some answers about how she does it from the only person in the world who really knows.

Mrs. CLINTON: You know, I've--I've been really blessed. I mean, I know people might look at this and think, 'Oh, my gosh,' you know, 'with what she's been through, how can she say that?' But...

RATHER: Hard to see how you've been blessed the last year and a half or so.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, but, you know, nobody would wish on anyone what we and the country have gone through the last year and a half or so, but I also have learned a lot. And I have been able to share experiences with people that have been extraordinary, with their outreach to me, their prayers, their good wishes,

their concerns.

RATHER: Seven years ago on "60 Minutes," she seemed to ridicule the idea of staying with a straying husband.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From 1992 "60 Minutes") You know, I'm not sitting here as some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette. I'm sitting here because I love him and I respect him and I honor what he's been through and what we've been through together. And, you know, if that's not enough for people, then, heck, don't vote for him.

(Footage of Clinton talking with Rather)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Today she doesn't talk about fidelity. She talks about forgiveness, and dealing with personal pain.

Mrs. CLINTON: Sometimes things come totally out of the blue, and something good or terrible happens to you, neither one of which you could have predicted, and--and probably certainly don't deserve. Life is not by any means fair or easy for anyone, but part of what I think we're challenged to do is to keep trying. And to keep trying not only on our own behalf, but on behalf of anyone whom we can touch and whom we can help.

RATHER: You mentioned you're a religious person. Did you find yourself praying more over the most difficult period?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I've--I've prayed a lot ever since we've been in the White House. It's been--it's been a circumstance that certainly requires a lot of prayer and a lot of people...

RATHER: You smile, but I sense you're serious.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well--well, I'm very serious about it. I have prayed a lot and I've been prayed for a lot. And I have been grateful for the prayers of people I know, and people I will probably never meet. And it has helped me enormously. And, you know, sometimes it's--it's--it's a way not only of pouring your heart out, but of really getting filled up again with, you know, some energy and some hopefulness and positive feelings that can carry you forward.

(Footage of Clinton addressing a committee)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She has always been more comfortable explaining health care...

Mrs. CLINTON: (From committee video) On the benefits package, we have priced that out very carefully, congressman.

(Footage of Clinton talking to press)

RATHER: (Voiceover) more effective fighting off financial questions...

Mrs. CLINTON: We went into Whitewater to make money, not to lose it.

(Footage of Clinton on "Today" show)

RATHER: (Voiceover) ...more at ease on national television blaming partisan politics for her husband's problems.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From "Today" show video) It's this vast right-wing conspiracy that has been conspiring against my husband since the day he announced for president.

(Footage of Clinton and the president at the public gathering)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Hillary Rodham Clinton's latest incarnation is probably the one she likes least: long-suffering wife; for some, an object of sympathy.

(Excerpt from Democratic Convention; Clinton with the president at Democratic conventions; Clinton sitting with the president; Clinton getting out of limo; Clinton addressing New York Democrats; Clinton with teen-agers; Clinton with Boys and Girls Clubs members)

RATHER: (Voiceover) But now the woman who has always been at his side and on his side may be about to step out on her own. And as she flirts with a run for the Senate, she is once again on the brink of breaking new ground for American first ladies. Soon she could be campaigning for herself. But the agenda she lays out seems downright old-fashioned. She sees her work as focusing on children and families, and the unique problems they face today.

Mrs. CLINTON: In some ways, I think we've been running kind of an experiment, if you will, in raising of children. It's not anything anybody planned. It's been unwitting. But we've been changing the way we live, and we've been tearing down a lot of our institutions, we've been undermining a lot of old values. We've allowed all kinds of influences in our front doors that we never would have before, to influence the lives of our children. We've worked in ways, and our families are structured differently than was ever done before. So there's just been many, many things that have changed within one or two generations, which we really have to pay attention to. And we--and we really have to start taking some action on--on behalf of our kids.

RATHER: Give me a specific one or two things, something concrete you think we could do and should be doing.

Mrs. CLINTON: We have to be better connected to each other and particularly to our children. We have to do more to build a sense of community. Now what does that mean? Well, it may mean that our high schools and our schools are too large for children to really feel connected to the adults who are there, for the adults to know them. You know, I was recently in a school in Queens, in New York City, and--and I was just stunned that in a school built for 1,500 kids, there were 2000 kids, and that there were gonna be 500 more because of overcrowding.

You know, that sends a real message to children that, 'You're not our first priority. We're not gonna make space for you.' I go to so many towns and see now schools that have no play areas, where kids have no safe places where they can gather. It's very different from the way most of us grew up. It is just a lot harder to be--to be a child today. You know, if--if we were doing something in the front yard of our house when my mother wasn't home and the woman across the street saw us, she'd be out in a minute to tell us to, you know, stop doing

that or she'd tell our mother. We could walk down sidewalks. We could ride our bikes to the parks.

There were so many other ways that we were connected. The church was a big part of our life. You know, my father was home for dinner every night at the same time. We have changed so much about how we live that I don't think it's useful at all to point fingers and place blame. It's much more a question of how each of us will take responsibility in our own lives, and in our professional and public lives, you know, to begin to speak out and make the changes that we need.

RATHER: You mentioned again children.

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: It--it's been--you know--it's been your--your burning passion--it's just--to what you've been connected for most of your career. Did or did not the president, your husband, last year, did he communicate mixed messages to young people about right and wrong?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I--you know--again, I'm not gonna go back and, you know, talk about that in any public way at this time. I think he has, himself, spoken about the people he let down and the disappointment he caused. So I will let him speak to that.

But I think no matter who you are or no matter what you do or what's done to you, there's always the chance to try to make it better. That there's always the hope for forgiveness; to forgive and be forgiven. And that comes certainly out of my religious faith, but it also comes out of my personal experience.

RATHER: Do you believe in redemption?

Mrs. CLINTON: Absolutely. I've seen too much of it. I've not only seen it in the lives of other people, I've seen it in my own, and those I love around me. So I do.

RATHER: Let's pretend for a moment it's 2050. There's an encyclopedia and it has a picture...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...of Hillary Rodham Clinton...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...one-time first lady of the United States. What do you think the caption under that picture will be?

Mrs. CLINTON: I have no idea. I have no idea. You know...

RATHER: What would you like it to be?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, my goodness. You know, I don't think about myself in those terms. I--I really do try to get up every day and just do the best I can.

I know that may sound sort of simple but that's how I live my life. And I think I've been sort of transition figure in the minds of a lot of Americans because of, oh, the age at which we came into office, the backgrounds we brought, the things we worked on. My concerns, which I try to continue advocate. So I think that I've been a transition figure. And I don't know what the final judgment on any of that will be.

RATHER: We've talked about the possibility of running for the Senate, you said that you're obviously interested in it. What are the possibilities that one day, someday, you'll run for president?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, my gosh, that's n--not possible I don't believe. I mean...

RATHER: You've thought about it though, haven't you?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, I haven't.

RATHER: Never considered it?

Mrs. CLINTON: People have said that to me, but it's something I've--I don't take seriously at all. It's not even--it's--it's not even the--the universe of--of my thinking.

RATHER: Like it or not, I know you'll like it not, your husband is one of two presidents to have been impeached.

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: Do you agree or disagree it's gonna be in the first paragraph of his obituary?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I--I don't know. That depends--I suppose it depends on who writes the obituary. I don't think that it is by any means the most important contribution of his presidency, which I consider to be filled with very significant progress for our country.

RATHER: He told me that he'd--in an interview...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...that he did not consider it a badge of shame. Do you?

Mrs. CLINTON: It was such a political process. It was--it was a tragically political misfortune for our country. And I think that when the history is written it'll be seen in a broader context and will be more understood.

RATHER: You've talked about that before, but--if--now have a chance to reflect on a little, of all the allegations, accusations, charges made, what do you consider the most--the--the most unfair attack?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know, I think that the entire process was an unfortunate one, and I'm just glad it's behind us now. I'm glad that--that we survived that painful period. And it was painful. It was painful obviously for me and for my family and for our country.

(Footage of Clinton talking to Rather; Clinton walking in crowd; woman using camera)

RATHER: (Voiceover) It is the most she will share about the past year and a half, and for some in our confessional society, that may not be enough. But Hillary Clinton doesn't care. She's intent on sharing something else: Not what she's gone through, but what she's come away with.

Mrs. CLINTON: You know, when you go through any kind of difficult experience, you have a choice. I mean, you can let it break you and embitter you, or you can take whatever you've experienced, whatever pain or suffering, and decide that you're still gonna have faith. You know, your faith in God, your faith in your fellow man, that you're still gonna believe that you can make a contribution to a better life. It's a choice. Every single day we wake up, you can choose to be cynical or hopeful. You can choose to be grateful or contemptuous. You can make all those choices. And for me, it's not a very hard choice.

(Announcements)

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: May 27, 1999

6TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

3/31/99
60 Mins. II
w/ POTUS
+ Dan Rather

SHOW: 60 MINUTES II (9:00 PM ET)

March 31, 1999, Wednesday

TYPE: Profile

LENGTH: 4166 words

HEADLINE: PRESIDENT CLINTON; BILL CLINTON'S PRESIDENCY, THE AIR WAR AGAINST
SERBIAN FORCES IN KOSOVO AND HIS FAMILY

ANCHORS: DAN RATHER

BODY:

PRESIDENT CLINTON

DAN RATHER, co-host:

With the air war against Serbian forces entering its second intense week, we asked President Clinton to sit down and talk to us about Kosovo, about what to expect next there and about his presidency. He agreed, and this afternoon we met in the White House.

(Footage of President Clinton and Rather)

(Voiceover) After walking and talking for a short while, we sat down for our interview in the Cabinet Room, and the president talked passionately about the war tactics of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Pres. CLINTON: Look at what this guy did in Bos--let's go back to Bosnia, two million refugees, a quarter of a million people dead. And there is no question that this is his strategy. And I think he wanted to clean them out. I think he wanted to ethnically cleanse the country as much as he could. I think he wanted to drastically alter the population balance. I think he wanted to eradicate all the records of what--the--the Albanians and the property they owned. I think he wanted to erase history and start all over again. That's what I think.

RATHER: Is 'genocide' too strong a word, Mr. President?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, it--as you know, I--I--I've tried to be hesitant in using it. There is no question that a few 1,000 people have been murdered because they were Kosovar Albanians. There's no question about that.

RATHER: But you hesitate to use the word 'genocide.'

Pres. CLINTON: But I think because it--it's only a question of whether enough people have been killed yet. There's no question that what he was doing constitutes ethnic cleansing and that he was killing and uprooting people because of their ethnic heritage. There is no question about that. And I think that not only he, but others who have been in decision-making positions, have to be held accountable for what they've done. And, of course, this whole war crimes tribunal that's been set up to review what happened in the Balkans will have to review those facts. But the main thing I want to do is--whatever the label belongs on it--is to stop it if we can.

RATHER: Mr. President, there are reports that as we speak and through this evening that there will be air attacks in Belgrade itself, that you've gotten NATO to authorize it. Is that correct, is that accurate?

Pres. CLINTON: It is accurate that we are attacking targets that we believe will achieve our stated objective, which is either to raise the price of aggression to an unacceptably high level so that we can get back to talking peace and security, or to substantially undermine the capacity of the Serbian government to wage war.

RATHER: In the vernacular of the military, have you authorized them to go downtown?

Pres. CLINTON: I have authorized them to attack targets that I believe are appropriate to achieve our objectives. We have worked very hard to minimize the risks of collateral damage, but I do not believe that we can rule out any set of targets that are reasonably related to our stated objectives.

RATHER: When you say that you don't rule out any--any targets that could help you accomplish the mission, would that declining to rule out targets include the Defense Ministry, the Interior Ministry?

Pres. CLINTON: I just--I don't think I should discuss the specific targets, because I don't want to compromise our efforts to achieve them. But you can say that--that I didn't rule out any targets anywhere within Serbia or Kosovo that would be reasonably related to our objectives. You can say that.

(Footage of military plane; military tank; Albanians; burning villages; people dragging body bags)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Since the bombing began, the president acknowledged that the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo has gotten much worse. But he says that would have happened anyway. The forces of Serbian President Milosevic have continued to force tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians out of their homes and out of the country. Towns have been emptied, villages burned and there have been reports of mass killings.

Pres. CLINTON: We believe we can do something about it there, and I think we have to try.

RATHER: You still believe you can do something about it there? The last few days have indicated--well, it seemed from at least several points of view--Milosevic is winning and we're losing.

Pres. CLINTON: Well, we knew that that would happen in the first few days. He had planned this a long time. Keep in mind, before the first NATO plane got in the air, he already had the 40,000 troops there. Think how we would feel if this were going on and we were doing nothing. Now there--there's no question that in--we--we've run this air campaign for less than a week. We've been hampered by bad weather. We had to be cautious on the early nights to try to at least protect our planes as much as we possibly can against the air defenses, which are quite good. And so it takes awhile to get up and going, and against that, he had 40,000 troops and 300 tanks. It shouldn't surprise anybody that he's able to do a lot of what he intended to do, even though we've had some success in hitting his military targets in the last couple of days.

But I would urge the American people, and, indeed, the people of all the NATO nations, to--to have a little resolve here, to stay with your leaders, to give us a chance to--to really see this thing through. We cannot view this as something that will be instantaneously successful. This is something that will require some time. So I would ask for the American people to be patient and to be resolved and to be firm and to give our st--our plan a chance to take hold here.

RATHER: Mr. President, I want to read you what some fairly high-ranking military people have said privately. You would understand they didn't want their names attached to it. 'Dan, we're not employing the full power of our Air Force.' Another one, 'We ran over 200 bombing missions the first day when we moved against Saddam Hussein. There hasn't been a single day in which we've run as many as 50 bombing missions, ex--with the possible exception of today.'

Why aren't we going all out? You've described a situation that you feel passionately about and you think is wrong. You know...

Pres. CLINTON: But--but let me just say...

RATHER: ...everybody knows if you get in a street fight with a bully, you want to hit him the hardest at--right at first.

Pres. CLINTON: We have done this through and with NATO. It is an organization that operates by consensus. One of the things that has struck me is that in the last 48 hours, because of the actions taken by Mr. Milosevic, the will, the steel, the determination and the outright anger of our allies has been intensifying exponentially. So that we have now, I think, a stronger support than we have ever had for taking the most aggressive action we can. I understand the frustration of the--of some of our people in the Pentagon, but I think that the secretary of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs would tell you that--that I have worked very hard with them to give them the maximum possible leeway, showing sensitivity only to targets that might have marginal benefits but cause a lot of collateral damage. I don't want a lot of innocent Serbian civilians to die because they have a man running their country that's doing something atrocious. But some of them are at risk because of that and must be because we have targets that we need to go after.

RATHER: With all respect, but also directly, everybody acknowledges you have a brilliant mind, you're an excellent speaker, but sometimes people--people who support you and like you say, 'Well, he parses words too closely.' What 'is' is argument, all of that. I want to discuss ground troops in the context of

speaking as directly as you possibly can. When you say you have no intention to commit ground troops to accomplish your mission in Kosovo, does that mean we are not going to have ground troops in there way--no way, no how, no time?

Pres. CLINTON: It means just what it says. You know, you--I--I'll come back to the point, but you say people say I parse words too close. That's what they said about President Roosevelt, too. He made a pretty good president. And when people say you parse words too closely, it usually means they want to ask you a question and get you to give an answer which is inconsistent with the objective you're trying to pursue for the American people. And so you don't do what they want you to do. So normally they criticize you not for what you're doing, but for s--what they wish you would do.

RATHER: Sure.

Pres. CLINTON: Now, I have--I have--I have used those words carefully. I am very careful in the words I use. Now on the merits of it, the thing that bothers me about introducing ground troops into a hostile situation and into Kosovo and into the Balkans is the prospect of never being able to get them out. If you have a peace agreement, even if it's difficult and even if you have to stay a little longer than you thought you would, like in Bosnia, at least there is an exit strategy and it's a manageable situation. People are frustrated because we live in an age where everybody wants things to operate like a 30-second ad. This air campaign is not a 30-second ad. It's only been going on for a few days and it's been undermined to some extent by bad weather.

RATHER: Let me follow up on something, Mr. President. First of all, the pope has asked for an Easter suspension of the bombing. Are you prepared to do that?

Pres. CLINTON: I don't see how we can do that with what's going on on the ground there now. Mr. Milosevic is--is running those people to the Albanian borders and to the other borders by the thousands a day. He's killing people. No one would like more than I to properly observe Easter, which for Christians is the most important holiday of all, even more important than Christmas really because of what it symbolizes to the living. But it--we can't observe Easter and honor the Resurrection of Christ by allowing him another free day to kill more innocent civilians.

RATHER: And to those people who say, Mr. President, that this is the most important week in the whole Judeo Christian calendar, in many ways, because you have Passover, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, that it is, quote, "obscene" to be carrying on this kind of war during this period, you say what?

Pres. CLINTON: That we are acting in defense of the defenseless. We are not carrying on an aggressive war. We are acting at a time when he is going through the country, killing people of--according to reports, including moderate politicians, tried to destroy records of what their land holdings are that--trying to eradicate any historical record of their claim to their own land. I hate the idea of having to continue this campaign during this period, but I hate more the idea that we would walk away from this campaign while he continues to clean out house after house after house and village after village after village and kill a lot of innocent people. I think that is--I think that that would not serve to honor the occasion.

RATHER: Mr. President, as you always try to do, you're talking in measured tones as president of the United States. You have to be careful of what you say. But I'm told by those who are close to you that you have a lot of pent-up feelings about what's happening in the Balkans, what we're doing there. Can you share some of that with us?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, I guess I do have a lot of pent-up feelings, and I think the president's supposed to keep a lot of his feelings pent up. But let me say, I--I think throughout human history, one of the things that has most bedeviled human beings is their inability to get along with people that are different than they are, and their vulnerability to be led by demagogues who play on their fears of people who are different than they are. And here we are at the end of the Cold War, we're on the verge of the 21st century, and what is the dominant problem of our time, from the Middle East to Northern Ireland, to Bosnia, to Central Africa? People still wanting to kill each other because of their racial, their religious, their ethnic, their cultural differences. This is crazy.

RATHER: When we come back, Mr. Clinton talks about his presidency and events of the past year.

(Announcements)

RATHER: There was a point in the interview in the Cabinet Room this afternoon when the interview broadened out and President Clinton talked about what's happened the past year and his presidency.

Could you describe to me what you believe to be the responsibilities of a husband of a United States senator?

Pres. CLINTON: I don't know, but I'm willing to fulfill them. You know, I--I--I would do whatever. I would--I would fill in at dinners, make speeches when she had to vote. I would--I'd be the main casework officer of the New York office. I'd do whatever I was asked to do.

Let me say seriously, though, I--I--I have no earthly idea what my wife will do. I can tell you that before the--the--some New York officials came to her, it had never crossed her mind. And--and I still think it's a--it's a highly unusual thing. And I can imagine that many voters in New York would wonder whether--even though she and I firm--intended to move to New York after we left the White House--although I would also spend a lot of time at home in Arkansas--they would wonder, 'Well, you know, does this make sense for somebody to be a United States senator?' And that would be a burden she would have to carry in the campaign and to explain that. Why she was doing it, that she was asked to do it and demonstrate her commitment to the state and its issues. I--I think if she could win an election like that, she'd be magnificent. But whatever the duties are, you know, for 22 years now or more, we've done what I wanted to do in terms of my political career. So the deal I made was she gets the next 22 years, and if I'm still around after that, we can argue about the third phase. And so I'd be happy to be the spouse of a senator.

RATHER: And you expect to do that together as man and wife?

Pres. CLINTON: Oh, absolutely. I would--like I said, I--I d--I don't know

what the duties are, but I'm sure I could fulfill them.

RATHER: Mr. President, you know Americans like to know that the first family is OK, that they're doing all right. Given the year, plus what you and our first family have been through, tell us what you can about how the three of you are doing.

Pres. CLINTON: Well, I think given what we've been through, we're doing reasonably well. And, you know, we're not a large family, but we do love each other very much, and we work hard to support one another.

(Footage of Hillary Rodham Clinton in North Africa; Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea)

Pres. CLINTON: (Voiceover) And I think that this trip to North Africa has been a good thing, not only for our country, because I think Hillary's done a great job on it. And I think it must have been good for--for Hillary and Chelsea, too, to have that time together to do some exciting things, to be in a different environment, and I think they really enjoyed it.

But I think we're doing quite well considering what we've been through and--and God willing, we'll keep after it.

RATHER: Well, I asked you about the first family, how about yourself? You know, we're here in a room with pictures of Lincoln, Washington, the Continental Congress. When you look back over this year plus, I mean--you know, what's the moral of it? Does it have a moral?

Pres. CLINTON: Oh, yes, I think there is more than one lesson here. I think first of all, the moral is there's a personal moral, which is that every person must bear the consequences of his or her conduct. And when you make a mistake, you pay for it, no matter who you are. And it's true, whether or not it's made public or whether or not what's made public is exactly an accurate reflection of what, in fact, happened, that's not the im--important thing. The important thing is that there are consequences in people's personal lives no matter who they are.

The second lesson is that the Constitution works. The Founding Fathers were smart people. They understood that partisan passions would s--would very often get carried away and the temptation to seize on events of the moments would be too great and that's why they wrote the Constitution the way they did. And they were awfully smart.

The third thing that I think we learned this year is that the American people almost always get it right if you give them enough time to think through things and--and really work on it.

And the fourth thing I think we learned is that people expect their elected officials to work for them and not to to be focused on themselves or their adversaries in Washington, and that they will reward those who they believe get up every day and show up for work and work for them and their future and their children, and they will take account of those they believe do not. Those are, I think, the lessons of the last year.

RATHER: You said the American people if given enough time, did you ever

consider resigning?

Pres. CLINTON: Never.

RATHER: Never for a second?

Pres. CLINTON: Never, not a second, never, never.

RATHER: Never entered your mind?

Pres. CLINTON: Never entered my mind.

RATHER: Did the first lady ever come to you and say, 'Listen, I think we ought to at least consider it?'

Pres. CLINTON: No. She felt at least as strongly as I did that it shouldn't be done.

RATHER: That tells me she might have felt even stronger.

Pres. CLINTON: At least as strongly as I did. But it never crossed my mind. I wouldn't do that to the Constitution. I wouldn't do that to the presidency. I wouldn't do that to the history of this country. I would never have legitimized what I believe is horribly wrong with what has occurred here over the last four or five years.

RATHER: Mr. President, you--sorry.

Pres. CLINTON: And so it never crossed my mind. And--and I always had faith. I just fate--I--I--I prayed about it. I--I--I tried to work on maintaining my inner spiritual strength, I tried to come to grips with the work I had to do personally with my family and myself and the work I owed the American people. And I just decided that, you know, that of all the options available, that wasn't one, and it never entered my mind.

RATHER: Mr. President, I get a lot of letters, not as many as you, do but I get a lot of letters from parents who say--some of them say, 'Listen, I like President Clinton. I like what he's doing for the country.' Some of them even say, 'I'd vote for him again, but I don't know what to tell the children.' On the--on the worst aspects of what's happened last year, let's try to give these parents some help. I mean, what--what can they tell the children? What do the children...

Pres. CLINTON: What's interesting--you know, I--I get a lot of letters from parents and from children--interesting letters from children, and sometimes pretty young children--11- and 12-, 13-year-old kids writing me. Some of them on this very point, and offended that they're being used in that way and because--what they say is, 'What I learned from this is what my parents always told me, that nobody is so big or so important that they're not subject to the same rules of human conduct and that when they do things they shouldn't, they have to bear the consequences. But that if they--they bear the consequences, say they're sorry, and go on, they should be able to go on with their lives because they also know that every person makes mistakes. No one is so big or so important that they are perfect.' And so that's what I would say to our children.

That's what I think the lessons of all those Bible stories are of the great figures in the Bible who did things they shouldn't have done. The--the reason those stories are in the Bible is to say, 'Everyone sins, but everyone is held accountable, and everyone has a chance to go on.' And that all three of those points need to be made. And if you say that to our children--I think that's what needs to be said. Kids are pretty smart. And they--this is a good lesson, not a bad lesson for them. I'm sorry that I had to be the example, and it's painful, but the lessons--the right lessons properly learned will be good for them and good for our country.

RATHER: Last question if you'll indulge me. You agree that whatever you do, however this situation in Kosovo turns out, whatever else you do, in the first paragraph of your obituary is going to be a reference to what you consider among the worst things that's ever happened to you, only president in the 20th century to be im--impeached, only--one of only two presidents to be impeached. Give me some sense of how you feel about that within--within yourself?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, first of all, I'm not at all sure that's right, that it will be the first paragraph of the obituary. And secondly, if it is, if the history writers are honest, they'll tell it for just exactly what it was. And I am honored that something that was indefensible was pursued and that I had the opportunity to defend the Constitution. That doesn't have anything to do with the fact that I did something I shouldn't have done, which I'm ashamed of and which I apologize for, but it was--it had nothing to do with the impeachment process, and I think that's what the American people, two-thirds of them, knew all along. And I--and I stood--and I determined that I would defend the Constitution and the work of my administration and those that did not agree with what I had done and were furious that it had worked and that the country was doing well and attempted to use what should have been a constitutional and legal process for political ends did not prevail. And that's the way I saw it. I have no lingering animosity. I don't wake up every day mad at those people.

RATHER: You've got to be bitter about some of that.

Pres. CLINTON: I'm not. I--I have--I'm not. I learned--look, I'm not. Not--and I'm--I'm not saying that for any reason other than that I have--part of the learning process that I went through in the last six years, but certainly in the last--and in the last several years when I was dealing with this, when I saw, you know, the--all these other charges, they were always false, they never amounted to anything, and--and half the people that were propagating them knew they were false. I realized that particularly in the last year, if I wanted people to give me forgiveness, I had to extend forgiveness. If I wanted to be free to be the best president and the best husband and father and the best person I could be, I had to free myself of bitterness. And I have worked very hard at it.

And I have had very powerful examples. I look at a man like Nelson Mandela who suffered enormously. Yes, he was part of a political movement that was threatening to the people who were in, but he didn't deserve to go to jail for 27 years, and in the 27 years he was there, he purged himself of his hatred and also of whatever might have been wrong with himself and his hatred of other people. And now if a person like that can rid himself of bitterness, what I went through was peanuts compared to that. It was nothing. And I--I think it's

an--and any moment I spend full of anger and bitterness is a moment I am robbing from my wife or from my daughter or from my country or from my friends. So it's--it's almost a selfish decision.

But I do not regard this impeachment vote as some great badge of shame. I do not because it was--I do not believe it was warranted, and I don't think it was right. And I believe, frankly, if you look back at President Andrew Johnson who, unfortunately, because of the circumstances under which he came to office, didn't have the opportunity to achieve very much while he was president, I think most people believed that he was unjustly impeached and that the fact that he stood up to it and refused to give in and came within--much closer than I did, he came within only a vote of actually being removed...

RATHER: True.

Pres. CLINTON: ...reflects well on him in the history of the country, not poorly.

And so I just don't have a--bad feelings about that. But neither do I have feelings of anger and bitterness against those who did what they did, whether they believed it or whether it was political or whatever. I just think that it's--it's past us and we need to put it behind us and we need to go on. We owe that to the American people, to let it go. And all of us owe it to our families and our personal lives. All the great players here, they need to let it go and go on with the business of the country.

(Announcements)

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 1, 1999

78TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

1/26/92
60 Minutes
w/ POTUS +
HRC

SHOW: 60 MINUTES (10:35 PM ET)

January 26, 1992, Sunday

TYPE: Interview

LENGTH: 1911 words

HEADLINE: GOVERNOR AND MRS. BILL CLINTON DISCUSS ADULTERY ACCUSATIONS

ANCHORS: Steve Kroft

BODY:

Steve Kroft, host:

It's been quite a week for Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton. On Monday his picture was on the cover of Time magazine, anointed by the press as the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination. Six days later, he's trying to salvage his campaign. His problem: Long rumored allegations of marital infidelity finally surfaced in a supermarket tabloid. And last week they were picked up and reprinted, unsubstantiated, by the mainstream press. Since then, for better or for worse, Governor Clinton's private life has become the overriding issue in the Democratic presidential campaign. Earlier today, Governor Clinton and his wife, Hillary, sat down with me to try to put the issue to rest. Keep in mind, as we said earlier, all of the allegations are unsubstantiated, all have been denied by everyone involved, except for the case of Jennifer Flowers. A former television reporter and cabaret singer, Jennifer Flowers, in a tabloid interview for which she was paid, says she carried on a long-term affair with Governor Clinton from the late 1970s to the end of 1989.

Who is Jennifer Flowers? You know her.

Governor Bill Clinton: Oh, yes.

Kroft: How do you know her? How would you describe your relationship?

B. Clinton: Very limited, but until this, you know, friendly, but limited. I have--I met her in the late '70s when I was attorney general. She was one of a number of young people who were working for the television stations around Little Rock. And people in politics and the people in the media knew each other then, just as they do now. She left our state, and for years I didn't really hear from her or know what she was doing. Then she came back--I don't know--some time a few years ago and went to work again in the state. So that's how--that's who she is.

Kroft: Was she a friend, an acquaintance? Did your wife know her?

B. Clinton: Yes.

Hillary Clinton: Oh, sure.

B. Clinton: She was an acquaintance. I would say a friendly acquaintance.

H. Clinton: Mm-hmm.

B. Clinton: When this story--this rumor story got started in the middle of 1980 and she was contacted and told about it, she was so upset, and she called back, she said, 'How could I be listed on this. I haven't seen you for more than 10 minutes in 10 years.' She would call from time to time when she was upset or thought she was really in--being hurt by the rumors. And I would call her back--either she would call the office or I would call her back there at the office or I would call her back at the house, and Hillary knew when I was calling her back. I think once I called her when we were together. And so there's nothing out of the ordinary there.

Kroft: She's alleging and has described in some detail in the supermarket tabloid what she calls a 12-year affair with you.

B. Clinton: It--that allegation is false.

H. Clinton: When this woman first got caught up in these charges, I felt as I felt about all of these women, that, you know, they've just been minding their own business, and they got hit by a meteor. I mean, it was no fault of their own. We reached out to them. I met with two of them to reassure them. They were friends of ours. I felt terrible about what was happening to them. You know, Bill talked to this woman every time she called distraught, saying her life was going to be ruined. And, you know, he'd get off the phone and tell me that she said sort of whacky things which we thought were attributable to the fact that she was terrified.

B. Clinton: It was only when money came out, wh--when the tabloid went down there offering people money to say that they had been involved with me that she changed her story. There is a recession on. Times are tough, and--and I think you can expect more and more of these stories as long as they're down there handing out money.

Kroft: I'm assuming from your answer that you're categorically denying that you ever had an affair with Jennifer Flowers.

B. Clinton: I've said that before and so has she.

Kroft: You've said that your marriage has had problems, that you've had difficulties. What do you mean by that? What does that mean? Is that some kind of--help us break the code. I mean, does that mean...

B. Clinton: I don't me...

Kroft: ...you were separated? Does that mean that you had communication

problems? Does that mean you contemplated divorce? Does it mean adultery?

B. Clinton: I think the American people, at least people that have been married for a long time, know what it means and know the whole range of things that it can mean.

Kroft: You've been saying all week that you've got to put this issue behind you. Are you prepared tonight to say that you've never had an extramarital affair?

B. Clinton: I'm not prepared tonight to say that any married couple should ever discuss that with anyone but themselves. I'm not prepared to say that about anybody. I think that the issue...

Kroft: Governor, that's what--excuse me. That's what you've been saying, essentially, for the last...

B. Clinton: But that's what I believe.

Kroft: ...couple of months.

B. Clinton: Look, Steve, you go back and listen to what I've said. You know, I have acknowledged wrongdoing, I have acknowledge causing pain in my marriage. I have said things to you tonight and to the American people from the beginning that no American politician ever has. I think most Americans who are watching this tonight, they'll know what we're saying, they'll get it, and they'll feel that we have been more candid. And I think what the press has to decide is: Are we going to engage in a game of gotcha? You know, I can remember a time--and it was sad--when a divorced person couldn't run for president. And that time, thank goodness, has passed. Nobody's prejudice against anybody because they're divorced. Are we going to take the reverse position now--that if people have problems in their marriage or things in their past which they don't want to discuss, which are painful to them, that they can't run?

Kroft: You're trying to put this issue behind you. And the problem with the answer is it's not a denial. And people are sitting out there--voters--and they're saying, 'Look, it's really pretty simple. If he has never had an extramarital affair, why doesn't he just say so?'

B. Clinton: That may be what they're saying. You know what I think they're saying? I think they're saying, 'Here's a guy who's leveling with us.' You--you may think that--that we should say more, and you can keep asking the questions. But I'm telling you I think that we've to--I'll come back to what I said. I have told the American people more than any other candidate for president. The re--the result of that has been everybody going to my state and spending more time trying to play gotcha.

H. Clinton: There isn't a person watching this who would feel comfortable sitting on this couch detailing everything that ever went on in their life or their marriage. And I think it's real dangerous in this country if we don't have some zone of privacy for everybody. I mean, I think that is absolutely critical.

Kroft: I--I--I couldn't agree with you more, and I think--and I agree with

you that everyone wants to put this behind you. And the reason it hasn't gone away is is that your answer is not a denial, is it?

B. Clinton: But interesting--let's assume...

Kroft: It's not a denial.

B. Clinton: Of course, it's not. And let's take it from your point of view. If--that won't make it go away. You know, you can cut this round or cut this flat. I mean, if you deny, then you have a whole other hoard of people going down there offering more money trying to prove that you lied. And if you say yes, you have just what I've already said by being open and telling you that we've had problems. You have, oh, good, now we can play gotcha and find out who it is. Now no matter what I say to pretend that the press will then let this die, we're kidding ourselves. I mean, you know, this has become a virtual cottage industry. The only way to put it behind us, I think, is for all of us to agree that this guy has told us about all we need to know. Anybody's who's listening gets the drift of it. And let's go on and get back to the real problems of this country. The problems are about what's going to happen to families in New Hampshire and the rest of this country in the future, not what happened to mine in the past.

Kroft: I don't like some of these questions any better than you do, but the question of marital infidelity is an issue with a sizable portion of the electorate. According to the latest CBS News poll, which was just taken over the weekend, 14 percent of the registered voters in America say they wouldn't vote for a candidate who's had an affair.

B. Clinton: I know it's an issue. And--and--but what does that mean? That means 86 percent of the American people either don't think it's relevant to presidential performance or look at whether a person looking at all the facts is the best person to serve.

H. Clinton: We've gone further than anybody we know of, and that's all we're going to say. And people can ask us 100 different ways in--from 100 different directions, and we're just going to leave the ultimate decision up to the American people.

Kroft: I think most Americans would agree that it's very admirable that you had--have stayed together, that you've worked your problems out, that you seem to have reached some sort of an understanding and an arrangement.

B. Clinton: Wait a minute, wait a minute.

Kroft: But...

B. Clinton: Wait a minute. You're looking at two people who love each other. This is not an arrangement or an understanding. This is a marriage. That's a very different thing.

H. Clinton: You know, I'm not sitting here some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette. I'm sitting here because I love him and I respect him and I honor what he's been through and what we've been through together. And, you know, if that's not enough for people, then, heck, don't vote for him.

Kroft: A good friend of yours, one of your campaign advisers, told us the other day, 'Bill Clinton has got to level with the American people tonight, otherwise, his candidacy is dead.' You feel like you've leveled with the American people?

B. Clinton: I have absolutely leveled with the American people.

H. Clinton: We are going to do the best we can to level with people and then we're going to let them make up their minds, because I think if the American people get a chance and if they're trusted to exercise their vote right because people talk to them about real issues, this country will be OK. That's what we're betting on, and we're just going to roll the dice and see what happens.

Kroft: You called it a gamble. You came here tonight to try and put it behind you. You're going to get on the plane when you walk out of this room and go back to New Hampshire. Do you think you've succeeded?

B. Clinton: That's up to the American people and, to some extent, up to the press. This will test the character of the press. It is not only my character that has been tested.

Kroft: I'm Steve Kroft. We'll be back next Sunday at our regular time with a complete edition of "60 Minutes", including Ed Bradley with Anita Hill, her first interview since the Clarence Thomas hearings. Now "48 Hours."

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 28, 1998

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 26, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM EVENT

The Roosevelt Room

10:37 A.M. EST

1998
POTUS
Remarks

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. First, let me thank all of you who are here. Many of us have been working together now for 20 years on a lot of these issues and this is a very happy day for us.

I thank the First Lady for all she has done on this issue, for as long as I have known her. I thank the Vice President and Mrs. Gore, for their Family Conference and the light it has shed on the announcement we're here to emphasize today. Thank you, Secretary Riley, for the community learning centers and I'm very proud of what we've done there.

Thank you, Bill White -- I'll talk more about your contribution in a moment, but it is truly remarkable. And I thank Rand and Debra Bass for giving us a living, breathing example of the best of America -- parents who are working hard to do their jobs, but also determined to do their most important job very well with their children. I thank Senator Feinstein, Senator Dodd and Senator Boxer for being here.

Tomorrow, in the State of the Union address, I will spell out what we seek to do on behalf of our children to prepare them for the 21st century. But I want to talk a little bit about education today and about this announcement in that context.

Education must be our nation's highest priority. Last year in the State of the Union address I set out a 10-point plan to move us forward and urged the American people to make sure that politics stops at the schoolhouse door. Well, we made a lot of progress on that 10-point plan: a remarkable -- a remarkable -- array of initiatives to open the doors of college to every American who's willing to work for it; strong progress toward high national standards in the basics, the America Reads challenge, to teach every 8-year-old to read; continued progress in the Vice President's program to hook up all of our classrooms and libraries to the Internet by the year 2000.

This has been the most important year in a generation for education reform. Tomorrow I'll set out the next steps on our continuing road. First I will propose the first ever national effort to reduce class size in the early grades. (Applause.)

Hillary and I worked very hard 15 years ago now to have very strict class sizes at home in the early grades, and it was quite controversial and I think enormously beneficial when we did it. Our balanced budget will help to hire 100,000 teachers who must pass state competency tests, but who will be able to reduce class size in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades to an average of 18 nationwide. (Applause.)

Second, since there are more students and there will be

more teachers, there must be more classrooms. So I will propose a school construction tax cut to help communities modernize and build new schools. Third, I will promote a national effort to help schools that follow the lead of the Chicago system in ending social promotion, but helping students with summer school and other programs to give them the tools they need to get ahead.

All these steps will help our children get the future they deserve. And that's why what we're announcing here is so important as well.

Every child needs someplace to go after school. With after-school programs we can not only keep our kids healthy and happy and safe, we can help to teach them to say no to drugs, alcohol and crime; yes to reading, sports and computers. My balanced budget plan includes a national initiative to spark private sector and local community efforts to provide after-school care, as the Secretary of Education said, to half a million more children.

Now, let me say, in addition to all the positive benefits, I think it's important to point out that the hours between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at night are the most vulnerable hours for young people to get in trouble, for juvenile crime. There is this sort of assumption that everybody that gets in trouble when they're young has just already been abandoned. That's not true. Most of the kids that get in trouble get in trouble after school closes and before their parents get home from work. So in the adolescent years and the later years this is profoundly important to try to give kids something to say yes to and something positive to do.

But we can't do it alone. As I said, our plan involves a public-private partnership. So it has fallen to me to announce that our distinguished guest from the Mott Foundation of Flint, Michigan, has pledged up to \$55 million to help ensure that after-school programs, supported by federal funds, are of the highest quality. That is an astonishing gift. Thank you, Bill White. Thank you. (Applause.)

We are determined to help Americans succeed in the workplace, to raise well-educated, healthy kids, and to help Americans succeed at the toughest job of all, that of being a parent. And the Mott Foundation has gone a long way toward helping us. I thank them.

Now, I have to go back to work on my State of the Union speech. And I worked on it until pretty late last night. But I want to say one thing to the American people. I want you to listen to me. I'm going to say this again. I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky. I never told anybody to lie, not a single time -- never. These allegations are false. And I need to go back to work for the American people.

Thank you.

END

10:44 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 5, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MEDICARE COMMISSION MEETING

The Cabinet Room

12:25 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good day, everyone. I am glad to be joined here by members of the Medicare Commission. In a few moments we will talk for the very first time about what we have to do as Americans to preserve Medicare, a system that has served our country so well for 33 years now. It's more than a program; it is a way we honor our duty to our parents and build a future for our children. It has been one of the great achievements of American society in the 20th century.

We've already done a lot in the last few years to strengthen Medicare: The balanced budget will extend the Medicare trust fund for at least a decade; \$20 billion has been saved by reducing fraud abuse and mismanagement in the system; we're giving people on Medicare a wider range of health plan choices and preventive services, including mammograms and diabetes management.

When Medicare was first passed into law, President Johnson said -- and I quote -- "It proved that the vitality of our democracy can shape the oldest of our values to the needs and obligations of changing times." I'm confident that the Medicare Commission will help us to build a new consensus to meet the challenges of a new era, strengthening Medicare for the 21st century and giving our people the security they need to thrive.

I'd like to thank Senator Breaux for agreeing to chair the Commission. He has a longstanding record both in his work on the Aging Commission and the Finance Committee -- the Aging Committee and the Finance Committee -- of working to develop consensus on important issues affecting our senior citizens.

I'd also like to thank Congressman Thomas for his leadership on this issue and on the Commission. He is well-known for his expertise on the Medicare program. He shepherded the Medicare provisions in the Balanced Budget Act through, and helped to assure that we could achieve bipartisan agreement on these reforms. And for that I am very, very grateful.

So I'd like now to give the Vice President and Senator Breaux and Congressman Thomas a chance to say a few words.

* * * * *

Q Mr. President, are you upset by the leaking of your Jones deposition -- or did your people actually do the leaking?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me say, the court has made it absolutely clear that it is illegal to leak or to discuss it. And I

think, Mr. Donaldson, I should follow the law. And so I don't have anything else to say. I know you've got to ask the question, it's your job. But I'm going to just do my job. That's what I'm doing here. And I'm going to follow the law. That's what I wish everyone else would do.

Q Sir, you never answered the important questions that I think a lot of people out there would like to hear you on.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I believe I have given all the answers that matter. And I don't have anything else to say at this time. I'm just going to go back and do my job.

Q -- do you stand by the facts in the deposition as reported by the newspaper?

SENATOR ROCKEFELLER: Do you care what Medicare is?

Q We all care, sir.

Mr. President, it says in the deposition as reported that you asked Betty Currie to see if she could help Monica Lewinsky get a job.

THE PRESIDENT: For one thing, I haven't read the article. For another thing, I don't know whether the article is accurate or not. Finally, whether it is or not, it is against the law. The judge has ordered us neither to release such materials or to discuss them. Somebody in this case ought to follow the law. I intend to be that person, so that I can go back to work about these things. I have nothing else to say.

Q Things have gotten very personal between you and Kenneth Starr, Mr. President. It seems to have gotten very personal between you and Kenneth Starr, Mr. President. I'm asking a question not about the deposition.

THE PRESIDENT: Sam never quits. He never quits.

Q Do you think Kenneth Starr is out to get you, Mr. President? It seems to have gotten very personal.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

12:35 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 3, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON THE ECONOMY

The Rose Garden

10:08 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Before I read my statement, I'd like to make a brief comment on a momentous event which occurred during my trip to Africa, back here. The Vice President turned 50, and I hope all of you noticed the increased gravity and maturity of his aura. (Laughter.) I personally am greatly relieved. Not long before he turned 50, as I told him when I called him, an elderly lady came up to me and she said, I think you and that young man are doing such a good job. (Laughter.) And it's nice to have a middle-aged team now at the White House.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: She was very elderly. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say, Hillary and I are delighted to be back from what was a wonderful trip to Africa. We are working hard to strengthen the bonds of the African continent that I am convinced is in the midst of a renaissance, where political and economic liberty is on the rise.

I only wish every American could have been with me every step of the way to see, first, Africa, not only its problems, which are profound, but the energy and intelligence and determination of the people. I also wish every American could have had yet one more opportunity to see how a very important part of the world see America -- still as a beacon of equality and freedom and hope for opportunity.

Today we learned that the unemployment rate in the first quarter of this year, averaging 4.7 percent, is the lowest it's been since 1970, 28 years. While there will be ups and downs, our economy continues to be one of the strongest in history. Over the past year we've seen the strongest wage growth in 20 years; inflation is still low; homeownership now at a record level. As we approach the longest peace-time expansion in our history, this is a springtime of hope and opportunity for the American people.

Our economy is the product of the hard work, the creativity, the innovation of our citizens, and the ingenuity and drive of our businesses. But also it is the fruit, as the Vice President said, of the comprehensive economic strategy we have pursued since 1993, a strategy for the new economy.

The coming months will now test our nation. It will determine whether we will maintain our discipline and pursue our priorities to strengthen our country for the new century. We can make this a time of action as well as a time of abundance, to secure our prosperity well into the future, to widen the circle of opportunity so that all Americans have a chance to reap the rewards of economic growth.

First, we should go and balance the budget this year and do it in

a way that continues our investment in our people and their future. With projected budget surpluses of \$1 trillion over the next decade, I am pleased that members of Congress of both parties have joined my call to reserve every penny of the surplus until we save Social Security first. This is very significant. I compliment the leadership of both parties. It will strengthen our nation.

At the same time, as we live within a balanced budget, we must invest to create prosperity for the future. Many times I have said that in the new economy, education is the leading economic indicator. We will continue to lead the world only if our children receive the world's best education. In that context, I am very concerned that the budget plan now working its way through the Senate will squeeze out critical investments in education and children.

I believe America must address the challenges before us. Class size for our children -- we must hire 100,000 new teachers so that we can reduce those class sizes. We must spur school modernization to make our classes smaller and our schools safer. We must invest in path-breaking scientific research that will lengthen our lives and promote prosperity into the 21st century. And we must make those investments which will make credible our call for higher standards and higher performance in our schools. The budget now being drafted by Congress simply does not meet these urgent national priorities.

I'm also determined that highway spending, though it is quite important, and though our budget provides for a very impressive increase in investment in highways and mass transit, must be -- such spending must be within the balanced budget, and should not crowd out critical investments in education, child care, health care, or threaten our budget discipline.

In the coming months I look forward to working with Congress in cooperation with lawmakers of both parties so that America stays on the path of both fiscal discipline and targeted investment -- a balanced budget that is in balance with our values and our long-term interest in the future. That is what has brought us this far since 1993. We should not depart from that strategy now.

Finally, I am determined to seize this historic opportunity to pass bipartisan legislation to protect our children from the dangers of tobacco. This Congress can be the Congress that saves millions of children's lives. I want to say that we seem to be making some progress on that, with the vote in the Senate committee, but there is an enormous amount of work still to be done. And I hope during this working recess the lawmakers of both houses and both parties will be talking to the folks back home about the tobacco legislation and will come back here at the end of this month with a renewed determination to actually pass legislation that will get the job done.

Our economy is the strongest in a generation, our social fabric is on the mend, our leadership around the world as we saw on the trip to Africa, remains unrivalled. But our history and our heritage tells us that we can do better and that our success depends upon our constant effort to do better. The American people want us to use this sunlit moment not to sit back and enjoy, but to act. We were hired by the American people to act. If we do so, in the 21st century the American dream will be more powerful than ever.

Thank you.

Q Do you have any comments on reports that Kenneth Starr is being urged to indict Monica Lewinsky and name you as a co-conspirator?

Q On the tobacco deal, sir, how concerned are you that one or more

of the tobacco companies might walk away from this proposed settlement? And do you believe that you need their cooperation both so that there is money for your budget priorities and so that you can win restrictions on cigarette advertising?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the latter is of greater concern. That is, their agreement, or lack of it, would influence the way Congress would have to raise the money, through raising the price of cigarettes to deter more consumption and to raise the funds for the health care costs of tobacco and the health research and the other things that I believe should be funded out of this settlement. But on the advertising, of course, that could be a concern because of the governing legal precedents.

But I still believe that the incentives are there for the tobacco companies to do this. With each new revelation of the strategies which have been vigorously pursued to market cigarettes to children, I think they have an enormous interest to reverse the record of the past to try to put this unforgivable chapter behind them and to start off on a new path. So I still believe that in the end we will achieve an agreement which will convince them, or which they will be convinced will be in their interest.

The advertising issue is the more important one from a legal point of view, but I think we'll get there because they have now -- with this evidence continuing to mount up about the deliberate strategy which was followed, they have a big interest in pursuing it.

On the other matter, you know, I'm not going to comment on that. I'm going to try to do what the Supreme Court said I should do, which is not to be in any way deterred by this, and I'm going on with my business; others will comment on that.

Q Mr. President, Moody's debt rating service earlier today issued a warning about Japan's sovereign debt. The United States has repeatedly urged Japan, with little apparent success, to try to jump start its domestic economy. Do you see any signs that the Japanese government is now ready to take actions that would help bring it into recovery?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the Prime Minister keeps moving forward in ways that the market seems to believe are insufficient. And we have obviously urged aggressive action, because we want the Japanese economy to grow. We think the Japanese economy is the key to stability and growth in Asia, and we have always wanted a strong, healthy Japanese partner.

Japan is a great democracy, they've been a great partner for us, they've been a great engine of economic growth for many years until the last few years. There may be some momentary disruption because now you have some business leaders speaking out in Japan, but it appears to us on the outside of this that there is an ongoing struggle between what is now the articulated view not only of the United States and others, but of the business community in Japan about the direction that country should take and the entrenched resistance to that in the permanent government bureaucracy that followed a different strategy with great success in previous years. And I think we need to be both respectful, but firm, in urging the Japanese to take a bold course.

Prime Minister Hashimoto is an able man, and he understands the economy, and I believe he wants to take such a course. What has to be done is that the people within the permanent government there, which have always enjoyed great power, have to realize that the strategies that worked in the past are not appropriate to the present. They have to make a break now in some ways that's not so different from the break

that we made in 1993. You simply can't stay with a strategy that is clearly not appropriate to the times and expect it to get the results that are needed for the country.

But Japan is a very great country full of brilliant people who have a great understanding of economics. And as I said, I think the Prime Minister understands this and is willing to take risks and wants to do it. And he's got this raging battle going on and I have to hope that the forces of the future will prevail.

Thank you.

END

10:20 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 11, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT RELIGIOUS LEADERS BREAKFAST

The East Room

9:40 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House and to this day to which Hillary and the Vice President and I look forward so much every year.

This is always an important day for our country, for the reasons that the Vice President said. It is an unusual and, I think, unusually important day today. I may not be quite as easy with my words today as I have been in years past, and I was up rather late last night thinking about and praying about what I ought to say today. And rather unusual for me, I actually tried to write it down. So if you will forgive me, I will do my best to say what it is I want to say to you -- and I may have to take my glasses out to read my own writing.

First, I want to say to all of you that, as you might imagine, I have been on quite a journey these last few weeks to get to the end of this, to the rock bottom truth of where I am and where we all are. I agree with those who have said that in my first statement after I testified I was not contrite enough. I don't think there is a fancy way to say that I have sinned.

It is important to me that everybody who has been hurt know that the sorrow I feel is genuine: first and most important, my family; also my friends, my staff, my Cabinet, Monica Lewinsky and her family, and the American people. I have asked all for their forgiveness.

But I believe that to be forgiven, more than sorrow is required -- at least two more things. First, genuine repentance -- a determination to change and to repair breaches of my own making. I have repented. Second, what my bible calls a "broken spirit"; an understanding that I must have God's help to be the person that I want to be; a willingness to give the very forgiveness I seek; a renunciation of the pride and the anger which cloud judgment, lead people to excuse and compare and to blame and complain.

Now, what does all this mean for me and for us? First, I will instruct my lawyers to mount a vigorous defense, using all available appropriate arguments. But legal language must not obscure the fact that I have done wrong. Second, I will continue on the path of repentance, seeking pastoral support and that of other caring people so that they can hold me accountable for my own commitment.

Third, I will intensify my efforts to lead our country and the world toward peace and freedom, prosperity and harmony, in the hope that with a broken spirit and a still strong heart I can be used for greater good, for we have many blessings and many challenges and so much work to do.

In this, I ask for your prayers and for your help in healing our nation. And though I cannot move beyond or forget this --

indeed, I must always keep it as a caution light in my life -- it is very important that our nation move forward.

I am very grateful for the many, many people -- clergy and ordinary citizens alike -- who have written me with wise counsel. I am profoundly grateful for the support of so many Americans who somehow through it all seem to still know that I care about them a great deal, that I care about their problems and their dreams. I am grateful for those who have stood by me and who say that in this case and many others, the bounds of privacy have been excessively and unwisely invaded. That may be. Nevertheless, in this case, it may be a blessing, because I still sinned. And if my repentance is genuine and sustained, and if I can maintain both a broken spirit and a strong heart, then good can come of this for our country as well as for me and my family. (Applause.)

The children of this country can learn in a profound way that integrity is important and selfishness is wrong, but God can change us and make us strong at the broken places. I want to embody those lessons for the children of this country -- for that little boy in Florida who came up to me and said that he wanted to grow up and be President and to be just like me. I want the parents of all the children in America to be able to say that to their children.

A couple of days ago when I was in Florida a Jewish friend of mine gave me this liturgy book called, "Gates of Repentance." And there was this incredible passage from the Yom Kippur liturgy. I would like to read it to you: "Now is the time for turning. The leaves are beginning to turn from green to red to orange. The birds are beginning to turn and are heading once more toward the south. The animals are beginning to turn to storing their food for the winter. For leaves, birds and animals, turning comes instinctively. But for us, turning does not come so easily. It takes an act of will for us to make a turn. It means breaking old habits. It means admitting that we have been wrong, and this is never easy. It means losing face. It means starting all over again. And this is always painful. It means saying I am sorry. It means recognizing that we have the ability to change. These things are terribly hard to do.

But unless we turn, we will be trapped forever in yesterday's ways. Lord help us to turn, from callousness to sensitivity, from hostility to love, from pettiness to purpose, from envy to contentment, from carelessness to discipline, from fear to faith. Turn us around, O Lord, and bring us back toward you. Revive our lives as at the beginning, and turn us toward each other, Lord, for in isolation there is no life."

I thank my friend for that. I thank you for being here. I ask you to share my prayer that God will search me and know my heart, try me and know my anxious thoughts, see if there is any hurtfulness in me, and lead me toward the life everlasting. I ask that God give me a clean heart, let me walk by faith and not sight.

I ask once again to be able to love my neighbor -- all my neighbors -- as my self, to be an instrument of God's peace; to let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart and, in the end, the work of my hands, be pleasing. This is what I wanted to say to you today.

Thank you. God bless you. (Applause.)

END

9:52 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 8, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT BUDGET MEETING

The Cabinet Room

5:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: We are about to start a meeting with the economic and budget team about the unfinished work in the budget that has to be done in the next few days. But before we start I'd like to make just a very brief comment on today's vote.

First of all, I hope that we can now move forward with this process in a way that is fair, that is constitutional and that is timely -- the American people have been through a lot on this and I think that everyone deserves that. Beyond that, I have nothing to say. It is not in my hands, it is in the hands of Congress and the people of this country -- ultimately, in the hands of God, there is nothing I can do.

But there are things I can do something about. And the most important thing I can do now is to work in the next few days to work to cross party lines to do the work that we have to do here. We have got to pass a budget that protects the surplus and still to save Social Security; that keeps the American economy going amidst all this economic turmoil in the world; that protects, instead of damages, the environment; and that gives the kind of priority to our elementary and secondary education that it so clearly needs.

Those are my priorities. I think those are the priorities of the American people. It will require us to put progress ahead of partisanship, but it clearly will strengthen our country and that's what we're going to work on and I hope we can do it.

Q Sir, you could speed the pace of this up if you were to volunteer to testify, decide whether or not now you would challenge Monica Lewinsky's account of your relationship. Have you made any decisions on that front?

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say again, on that I will do what I can to help to ensure this is constitutional, fair and timely. Ultimately, it is in the hands of the Congress. I don't think it's appropriate to comment further than that.

Q Mr. President, what's your reaction to the Republican demands on the IMF funding bill, and how closely are you watching the decline of the dollar against the yen?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we're watching that very closely. Of course, the strengthening of the yen could be a good thing. The yen got too weak and it led, for example, to breathtaking increases in imports of Japanese steel, which hurt a lot of our people, our industry and our workers who were clearly competitive internationally.

And if the Japanese yen were to come back because people believed Japan was serious about economic reform, then it would be a good thing. It would be a balancing of forces in the world economy. It would

strengthen the American economy by strengthening our own domestic manufacturing sector and making our exports more competitive. It would make it possible for Japan to buy other country's exports in Asia.

If it's a temporary phenomenon that evidences some sort of instability, then that's something we just have to try to sort out. But I don't think we can know for sure yet. The clear answer over the long run is for America to fund our responsibilities to the IMF, for Japan to get serious about its economic reform, for the Europeans to keep their markets open and continue growth so that all of us can get more money back into the global economic system right now and then deal with the long term problem. That's what I hope. I think it's very important not to be diverted by day to day developments here and think about what the larger problem is.

Q Mr. President, have you talked to other world leaders today? And how are you feeling personally about the vote?

THE PRESIDENT: Today I spoke with President Chirac of France. And I am meeting tomorrow with the man who will be the next German Chancellor, Mr. Schroeder. And we talked about Kosovo. And I have been working, as you know, all week long with people from all over the world on the international financial crisis.

Personally, I am fine. I have surrendered this. This is beyond my control. I have to work on what I can do. What I can do is to do my job for the American people. I trust the American people -- they almost always get it right and have for 220 years. And I'm working in a way that I hope will restore their trust in me by working for the things that our country needs. These things we're going to discuss at this budget meeting, that's what I can have some impact on and that's what I intend to do.

END

5:05 P.M. EDT

Larry D. wanted
you and Mrs.
Blitzer to see
this.

File Cohen

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CNBC News Transcripts

SHOW: RIVERA LIVE (9:00 PM ET)

August 12, 1999, Thursday

LENGTH: 2799 words

HEADLINE: CHRISTOPHER ANDERSEN AND LANNY DAVIS DEBATE TRUTHFULNESS OF ANDERSEN'S BOOK, "BILL AND HILLARY: THE MARRIAGE"

ANCHORS: DAVID GREGORY

BODY:

Ms. LUCINDA FRANKS (Talk Magazine): (From "Meet the Press" courtesy NBC) She did say to me, which didn't get into the article, that 10 years ago, she didn't know really about sexual addiction and, in fact, none of us really, you know, s--knew about--that that portion of our lives could be an addictive behavior. So I think she's--she's--I agree with you, I think there is a--I think in every relationship, we have to rationalize away weaknesses. But I think there is layers of denial. I think she's probably less in denial now.

Mrs. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON: (From August 4) Anyone who actually reads that article, I believe, would come away knowing that my husband and I love each other very much, and we are very committed to one another. And we've been through a lot, like most marriages I'm aware of. And I really believe strongly that this is an issue that the country's put behind us and I have as well.

DAVID GREGORY, host:

The first lady may be putting it all behind her, but a new book is pushing the subject of the curious Clinton couple right back to the forefront. It's called "Bill and Hillary: The Marriage" by best-selling author Christopher Andersen. Mr. Andersen, who joins us in New York City, claims Hillary Rodham Clinton had a two-decade-long affair with White House lawyer Vince Foster, who, as you know, committed suicide back in 1995.

The book quotes an Arkansas state trooper, assigned to then-Governor Clinton, as saying his wife did the following.

(Graphic on screen)

Trooper L.D. Brown

"Hillary and Vince were deeply in love. I saw them, locked in each other's arms, deep-kissing, nuzzling..."

Source: "Bill and Hillary: The Marriage"

GREGORY: 'Hillary and Vince were deeply in love. I saw them locked in each other's arms, deep kissing, nuzzling.' Mr. Anderson also writes of violent and

foul-mouthed battles between the first couple. He details the president's wayward sex life. And he claims that Hillary once intimidated Clinton accuser Juanita Broadrick. None of these accusations, true or not, is good news for the Clintons, and it's all especially disturbing to their longtime friend Lanny Davis. Mr. Davis is the former White House counsel, who's written a very different book about his more recent experiences with the president called "Truth To Tell: Notes From My White House Education." He joins us from Washington.

Welcome to you both. Christopher Andersen, "Bill and Hillary: The Marriage"--what is this marriage about?

Mr. CHRISTOPHER ANDERSEN (Author, "Bill and Hillary: The Marriage"): Well, I think it's definitely a love story. I have to say it's not a cynical, calculated arrangement, as many people suspect. I think Hillary feels very deeply for the president, and she hurts with every betrayal. As Dick Morris said, there's a great pain beneath her stoic exterior. But power is definitely an element here we cannot ignore. I mean, the fact is every time she comes to his rescue, and she has--he gives her the opportunity to do that quite frequently, she really in--is invested with more power in the relationship. And she is at her happiest, I think, when she can save the president from himself.

GREGORY: S--so it's both a love story and a kind of power arrangement, a political arrangement?

Mr. ANDERSEN: Sure, because you've got to remember the history of this. I mean, in the very beginning, she set aside her own ambitions, to some extent, to help Bill achieve his goals. I mean, she was telling friends as far back as 1970 when they met that this man was going to be president some day. And even though--Bernie Nussbaum took exception to that because, at one point, they were in the process of impeaching Richard Nixon, and he--and working on the Watergate staff, and he thought it was rather cheeky of this young woman to say her boyfriend was going to be president. She was right.

GREGORY: Lanny Davis, someone who's known the Clintons for a long time, especially Hillary Clinton going back to Yale Law School, you agree with this characterization of what is a--a curious relationship?

Mr. LANNY DAVIS (Former Clinton Special Counsel; Author, "Truth To Tell"): Well, first of all, I'd like to ask Mr. Andersen a question. Why didn't you disclose that L.D. Brown took \$ 5,000 from the Scaife people and that that might throw a question on his reliability?

Mr. ANDERSEN: You know, I don't--this is the rather typical, I'm afraid, of--the approach toward the troopers in Arkansas, the men who were quite close to the then-governor. You know, they have been consistent in their testimony, and they have been--their story has not changed. The president...

Mr. DAVIS: Mr. Andersen, are you not answering my question deliberately? Why didn't you disclose that they received \$ 5,000? It's a simple question. You can directly answer it or not.

Mr. ANDERSEN: All of a sudden, I feel like I'm on the witness stand, but I'll--I'll te...

Mr. DAVIS: On--on the witness stand? I asked you one question, which you won't answer. Why didn't you disclose that they received--that the person you rely on received fi...

Mr. ANDERSEN: Well, if you'll let me fin--I'm...

Mr. DAVIS: Well, I'm--I'm letting you. Just answer the question. Why didn't you disclose that to your readers at the back of your book?

Mr. ANDERSEN: Are you finished? Because I will tell you why. I don't think it's relevant, Mr. Davis. I don't think a m--a working-class person taking \$ 5,000 in the course of all of this and telling his story is relevant. And I think this is typical of the tactics...

Mr. DAVIS: Why don't you let your readers decide?

GREGORY: Lanny--Lanny, let him--let him finish.

Mr. ANDERSEN: Mr. Davis--Mr. Davis, this comes from people, you know--let's face it, a lot of people have made a lot of money on telling this story and defending the Clintons and on the other side as well.

Mr. DAVIS: So...

Mr. ANDERSEN: So let's not begrudge little people here...

Mr. DAVIS: So you chose...

Mr. ANDERSEN: ...taking a few thousand dollars. This is not relevant.

Mr. DAVIS: Did you chose--did you choose not to disclose the \$ 5,000 because you didn't think it was relevant?

Mr. ANDERSEN: Absolutely. It's--it's irrelevant.

Mr. DAVIS: All right. And--and--and...

GREGORY: Lanny, let me wedge in here because...

Mr. DAVIS: It's his testimony.

GREGORY: ...we're going to get to some of these questions about the book's credibility. But why--what about the question, Lanny, about his characterization of this marriage? Is it garbage?

Mr. DAVIS: His--his characteriz...

GREGORY: Is it patently wrong? And if--if so...

Mr. DAVIS: David, his characteriz...

GREGORY: ...substantively, why is it?

Mr. DAVIS: His--his characterization of anything is based upon the kind of

journalism that doesn't think it's relevant that a--that a key source received \$ 5,000, and that's the nature of this book. Let me ask another question.

GREGORY: Well, hold on. Let--Lanny, let...

Mr. DAVIS: Why do you call an FBI agent, Mr. Duda, an FBI agent when he was never in the FBI?

Mr. ANDERSEN: Oh, here we go down this path again. Look, what I've done is i--particularly in the--in the--in the case of the troopers, and I have to say they have provided the most consistent...

Mr. DAVIS: Are you not answering that question?

Mr. ANDERSEN: Well, you know, this is absurd, isn't it, Mr. Davis? I'm trying to be polite to you. I--would you do me the same?

Mr. DAVIS: You referred--you referred on page 185...

GREGORY: Lanny, hold on--hold on one second. Lanny, I'll tell you what. We're--we're not going to allow the interrogation at this point...

Mr. ANDERSEN: Thank you.

GREGORY: ...because I want to--I want to ask you, Lanny...

Mr. DAVIS: David, I would have liked you ask a question of somebody that you say is causing shock waves with the reliability of the National Enquirer...

GREGORY: OK.

Mr. DAVIS: ...to ask why he doesn't...

GREGORY: Lanny, it b--if you have the answers then...

Mr. DAVIS: ...disclose sources and why he is inaccurate...

GREGORY: ...if you--you know them...

Mr. DAVIS: ...in what he says in his book.

GREGORY: ...the question--hold on, Lanny. I pose the question to you. Is his premise about this relationship way off base? I'm asking you. You know the Clintons. Tell me about this relationship that Hillary Clinton has talked about with the world.

Mr. DAVIS: I--if--if you ask me what I think of the Clintons, I will. But for me to respond to anything that somebody that doesn't disclose biased sources, that gets his facts wrong...

GREGORY: All right.

Mr. DAVIS: ...and engages in National Enquirer journalism, it's not dignifying for me to even respond.

GREGORY: Tell me--tell me what the facts are.

Mr. DAVIS: I'll tell you what I think of the Clintons if you want to ask me that question. I'm happy to do that.

GREGORY: I--I--I've asked that question.

Mr. ANDERSEN: I--I--I'd love to hear the answer.

GREGORY: I'm asking you again.

Mr. DAVIS: I--I--I think the Clintons are very much in love with each other, and I think that they continue to be. They believe in their marriage and that not only has there not been shock waves in New York, her poll numbers have gone up since Mr. Andersen's book came out because everybody regards his book as slimy National Enquirer, and nobody takes it seriously that I talk to.

Mr. ANDERSEN: Well, it's been very vi--well reviewed, for one thing, and it--it will be number four on The New York Times Bestsellers List.

Mr. DAVIS: It--it--it--it--it--it has been--it has been...

Mr. ANDERSEN: But that's--that's besides the point. Mr...

Mr. DAVIS: ...well reviewed by people who ask you the reliability of your sources.

Mr. ANDERSEN: The Boston Globe...

Mr. DAVIS: Name me one--excuse me.

Mr. ANDERSEN: Well, I mean, the Associated Press, the Boston Globe. Look, you--you don't...

Mr. DAVIS: The--the Associated Press and the Boston Globe. That's--is that all you can stretch for?

GREGORY: All right.

Mr. ANDERSEN: No. Come on.

GREGORY: Lanny--Lanny, you gotta let him answer. Then I've got to take a break.

Mr. ANDERSEN: Yeah, please. I have a question for Mr.--for Mr. Davis. Are you upset that you were misled by the president of the United States? Did you know what was going on in the Oval Office with Monica Lewinsky when you were there, Mr. Davis?

Mr. DAVIS: I wrote--I wrote...

Mr. ANDERSEN: Was this--was this reprehensible behavior?

GREGORY: Hold on, guys. Guys, hold your fire. I gotta take a break here.

Mr. DAVIS: I wrote a book about the truth, something you would have no...

GREGORY: I gotta take a break.

Mr. DAVIS: ...absolutely no idea about. Yes.

GREGORY: Lanny, you're going to answer right after this. We're coming right back.

(Announcements)

GREGORY: We are back with Christopher Andersen and Lanny Davis. And, gentlemen, I'm going to lay down this ground rule in our remaining moments: Everybody gets to finish a thought here, despite your obvious differences. Christopher Andersen, I'm going to start with you. Talk about...

Mr. ANDERSEN: Thank you.

GREGORY: ...as you relate in the book, a period of time where Bill Clinton's sexual life gets away from him and one story in particular about an engagement party that you relate. Tell that story.

Mr. ANDERSEN: Well, there's so many. There was--the story you're referring to occurred when he was governor of Arkansas, and there was a--a major supporter whose nephew--he was holding an engagement party for his nephew. And Bill Clinton arrived at this party and went up to the host and saw an attractive blonde and said, 'Boy, she's hot. Who is that girl?' And the host said, 'That's my nephew's fiancée,' at which point he began to basically pursue the fiancée. As a result, the engagement was broken off. The--the--the--the nephew left town, and the girl was led to believe that--by Bill Clinton that he might actually divorce Hillary and marry her. And Hillary was very concerned when she learned of this particular egregious affair, one of many.

GREGORY: At what...

Mr. ANDERSEN: And I mi--and let me just add, David, that we are not at the point anymore where we're having to prove the president's infidelity. He said to Monica Lewinsky, who testified to this under oath, that he has had hundreds of aff--extramarital affairs.

GREGORY: What is your evidence of that particular story?

Mr. ANDERSEN: This was related to me directly by friends of both--both Bill and Hillary and the contributor. And I will tell you I cannot identify that--I can't identify these people because you know very well, Mr. Davis, that there are people who are very close to the press...

Mr. DAVIS: You sure can.

Mr. ANDERSEN: You know, I got calls over the weekend--over the last few days from these very people saying, 'Please don't bu--knuckle under. Please don't mention our names...'

Mr. DAVIS: He--is it my turn, David?

Mr. ANDERSEN: '...because we're already being intimidated,' by people who are guessing their identities. So I'm not going to do it.

Mr. DAVIS: I--is--is it my turn, David?

GREGORY: Go ahead, Lanny.

Mr. DAVIS: David, you are one of the best journalists I know. You would never put over the air, much less write in a story a smear against another person based upon somebody who received \$ 5,000 from the opposition without disclosing that. There isn't a journalist I know or you know that would not consider that relevant for your readers to know. The gentleman you are talking to has journalistic standards that doesn't think \$ 5,000 from Richard Melon Scaife to L.D. Brown is at least relevant to disclose to your viewers.

Let me give you another example of his standards for accuracy. On page 185, he writes, quote, "In early 1982, Hillary hired a former FBI agent and private investigator named Ivan Duda to investigate her husband." Now I searched Lexis/Nexis today about Mr. Duda, and I talked to several people about him. He was never an FBI agent. In fact, according to the Lexis/Nexis search I did, he had his private investigative license revoked after he waved a gun around in a bar and claimed to be a member of the CIA.

Now, Mr. Andersen, was it relevant for you to reveal that and to admit now on television that your careless research called him an FBI agent when he was not?

Mr. ANDERSEN: You know, it's--it's--it's amusing that out of the thou...

Mr. DAVIS: Are you going to answer my question?

Mr. ANDERSEN: I'm n--I'm not on trial here, sir. I'm not your witness. I will respond the way I choose to respond, and that's going to be to say that of the thousands and thousands of revelations and--and--and statements of fact in this book, you're going to start arguing with me about the--the past of a minor, minor character?

Mr. DAVIS: I...

GREGORY: Lanny...

Mr. ANDERSEN: We can sit here and argue, and I can tell you that I believe, you know, what's--everything that's in this book. I wouldn't have printed it otherwise. And this comes after 34 years in the business and 20 books.

Mr. DAVIS: Thank you. May I respond?

Mr. ANDERSEN: And, you know, I was an editor for Time magazine.

GREGORY: No.

Mr. ANDERSEN: So please don't give me lessons on journalistic objectivity.

GREGORY: L...

Mr. DAVIS: David...

GREGORY: No, Lanny, let--I'm gonna--I'm gonna pose this question and I'll have you respond. Why is the--the response to this book and this account, which is certainly not taken out of context if we're talking about the president's past here, given what the country has gone through--why is the response nothing of substance to what's actually being described or a different characterization of the relationship, which I remind you Hillary Clinton has now spoken about quite publicly?

Mr. DAVIS: The response, David, is that you're a reporter, and reporters write facts based upon reliable sources. And you don't write anything and you don't report anything unless you, David Gregory, with the integrity that you have, are sure that your sources are reliable, that you've checked them out to be sure they're accurate. You certainly would never repeat anything on the air that smears another human being without being sure you were right. And the nature of this book and the tabloid journalism that it represents is not dignifying for someone like you to do an interview, to throw softball questions without asking him the same questions that I'm asking him.

GREGORY: All right. I'm going to leave it there. Lanny Davis...

Mr. DAVIS: Thank you.

GREGORY: ...Christopher Andersen, thank you very much.

LANGUAGE: English

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

No 9,127

1 AUGUST 1999

MAGAZINE

Bad vibes

SPORT

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CASH PRIZES

ENTER FANTASY FOOTBALL TODAY FOR THE NEW SEASON

STYLE

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21

Hillary Clinton: why I stay marr

AMERICA'S first lady, Hillary Clinton, who is also the country's most publicly betrayed wife, has revealed for the first time why she has stood by the president. She said his infidelities were a "weakness" caused by the psychological trauma of childhood abuse.

In an interview that gives an unprecedented insight into their marriage, Hillary reveals that she believes Bill Clinton's childhood experiences set a pattern for his philandering. She also discloses that, until

the scandal broke over his affair with Monica Lewinsky, she thought he had "conquered" his unfaithfulness.

"Yes, he has weaknesses. Yes, he needs to be more disciplined, but it is remarkable given his background that he turned out to be the kind of person he is, capable of such leadership," she said.

"He was so young, barely four, when he was scarred by abuse. There was terrible conflict between his mother and grandmother. A psychologist

once told me that for a boy being in the middle of a conflict between two women is the worst possible situation. There is always a desire to please each one."

Ever since arriving in the governor's mansion in Arkansas in 1978, Clinton was known, in the parlance of the state, as a "hard dog to keep on the porch". When he became president in 1993 Betsey Wright, his assistant, had to devote much of her time to coping with "bimbo eruptions". But only when the

Christopher Goodwin Los Angeles

Lewinsky affair was exposed did Hillary realise that her husband had not changed.

"You have to be alert to it, vigilant in helping. I thought this was resolved 10 years ago. I thought he had conquered it; I thought he understood it, but he didn't go deep enough or work hard enough," she said.

Referring to the period after Clinton's affair with Jennifer Flowers, the Arkansas beauty

queen who claimed a 12-year relationship, Hillary said: "You know we did have a very good stretch — years and years of nothing."

The interview, to be published this week in *Talk*, a new magazine edited by Tina Brown, former editor of *The New Yorker*, is the first time Hillary has talked about her marriage since her husband was impeached for lying about his

sexual relationship with Lewinsky, the 21-year-old White House trainee.

Asked by Lucinda Franks, the interviewer, whether their marriage would survive the strain of her standing for the Senate in New York, Hillary replied: "He's responsible for his own behaviour whether I'm there or 100 miles away. You have the confrontation with the person and then it is their responsibility, whether it's gambling, drinking or whatever. Nobody can do it for you."

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SPORT

STYLE

ENTER FANTASY FOOTBALL TODAY FOR THE NEW SEASON

Continued on back page

Second heart hospital faces

tellite into a deep crater near the Moon's south pole at 3,600mph yesterday in a spectacular experiment signed to see if there really was water on the moon.

The impact happened just before 11am British time, with the spacecraft burning the last of its fuel to break it of its orbit 28 miles above the lunar surface and then falling downwards. The angle and timing were chosen to plunge it into the edge of a 26-mile-diameter crater which, astronomers suspect, could be cold and dark enough for ice to survive. Last night astronomers are beginning the long job of analysing data gathered by a dozen of orbiting and earth-bound telescopes and their instruments pointed at the impact site. Nasa said: "We are confident that the target was hit and the vehicle went deep into a crater, but it will be some time before we know if there was water there."

To hit its target, Nasa had to skid the spacecraft over

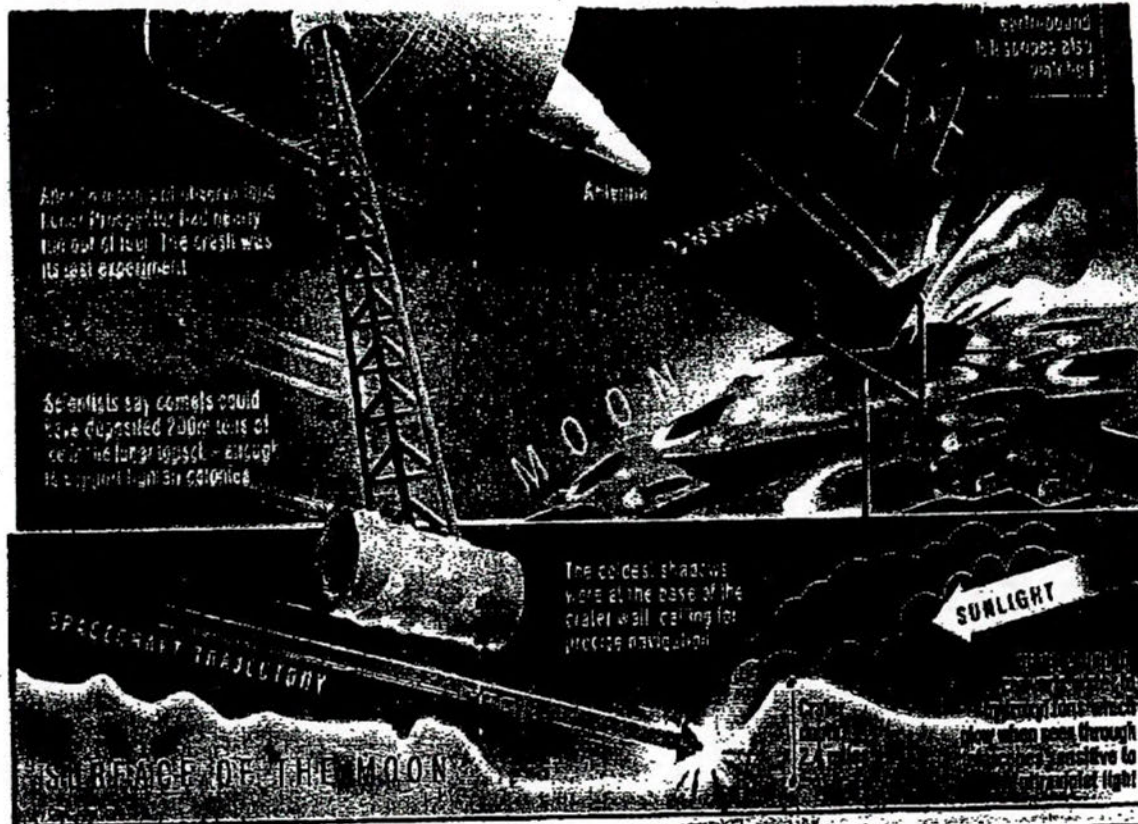
into the base of the far wall — where temperatures were thought never to rise above -280F, meaning water could survive for billions of years.

The search for water on the Moon began five years ago. The £40m Lunar Prospector probe was launched in January last year and has since orbited the Moon nearly 7,000 times. Early in the mission Nasa announced that its observations also suggested there was ice on the Moon, in large quantities.

The results were ambiguous because Prospector's neutron spectrometer had measured the level of hydrogen also contained in many other naturally occurring compounds.

It meant that the only way of proving there was water on the Moon was to observe it directly — and since Lunar Prospector was running out of the fuel needed to keep it in orbit, Nasa decided to use it in one last high-risk experiment.

Ashes to ashes,
News Review, page 8



Hillary blames child abuse for Bill's affairs

continued from page 1

it would break the pattern of abandonment in her family, and he did," Hillary said.

"Everybody has some dysfunction in their families. They have to deal with it. You don't talk away if you love someone. You help the person."

When Hillary tried to draw a comparison from the Bible to describe her allegiance, the interviewer suggested a passage from Corinthians. "Love endures all things? No, I love

that, but I was thinking of when Peter betrayed Jesus three times and Jesus knew it but loved him anyway. Life is not a linear progression. It has many paths and challenges; and we need to help one another."

"And it is love, isn't it?" asked the interviewer.

"Yes, it is," Hillary replied. "We have love."

She survived the infidelities and the public outcry through "soul-searching, friends, religious faith and long hard discus-

sions". She said: "I don't believe in denying things. I believe in working through it. Is he ashamed? Yes. Is he sorry? Yes. But does this negate everything he has done as a husband, a father, a president?"

"There has been enormous pain, enormous anger, but I have been with him half my life and he is a very, very good man. We just have a deep connection that transcends whatever happens."

Her chief of staff, Melanne

Verveer, said that as the president tried to make up for what he had done she had seen "physical passion" come back into their lives. But the rapprochement emerged slowly, according to another aide, who said Hillary had "barely spoken" to Clinton for eight months after the semen stain on Lewinsky's dress was made public.

During the past 18 months Hillary has lost weight, changed her hairstyle and started wearing smart clothes.

Clinton, say aides, has noticed the difference with some surprise. "Doesn't she look beautiful?" he is said to have observed to friends.

Hillary says she and Clinton enjoy the intimacies of any married couple. "We talk. We talk in the solarium, in the bedroom, in the kitchen — it's just constant conversation. We like to lie in bed and watch old movies, you know, those little individual video machines you can hold on your lap."

News of the interview began to circulate in Washington a few days after a court-fined president \$90,686 (£56,700) for lying in the harassment case brought by Paula Jones. It was the first time a sitting president had been fined for contempt. Jones had accused Clinton of making an unwanted sexual advance to her in a hotel in Arkansas before he became president.

Tina the mogul
News Review, page 7

intended to supply a prize in a Malays tournament, has withdrawn the offer after a publicity outcry. It said it did not want to be seen taking a dysfunction lightly

Heston

THE actor and his wife make a special at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, 25, a drama for his drama student entitled *An Audience with Heston* he will answer questions

Taiwan

CHINESE coastguard seized a Taiwanese fishing boat carrying supplies to the frontline island of Matsu, accusing it of smuggling. The incident comes as tensions between nationalists and communists

Death toll

THE death toll in the wildwater adventure has risen to 20 with the discovery of one more body in Lake Brienz, Switzerland.

Getting on

VILLAGERS in the Forest, East Sussex, launched a £10,000 campaign to put clay tiles on the roof of the church because of the woodpeckers on the wooden-tiled

Two killed

TWO men were killed when their car, travelling on the wrong side of a carriageway, collided with a lorry near Andover, Hampshire.

WEATHER AND TRAVEL OUTLOOK

DISTRICT FORECASTS

London, SE England, E Anglia, W Midlands, Midlands E, Midlands W, NE Scotland: Hot and humid with

FORECAST NOON TODAY



FORECAST NOON MONDAY



FOREIGN FORECASTS

Fine, dry and sunny for most places, with temperatures generally reaching the late twenties or into the thirties. Scattered

MOTORWAY WORKS

M1: Leicestershire, narrow lanes in operation both ways J20/J21 (until Nov 4); South Yorkshire, down to

£1

Talk Mag.
File



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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

August 2, 1999

PRESS BRIEFING BY
JOE LOCKHART

The Briefing Room

12:23 P.M. EDT

MR. LOCKHART: Questions. I've got no announcements for you. Let's get right to it.

Q Does the President have a problem fundamentally with what Mrs. Clinton said about him in her interview in Talk Magazine?

MR. LOCKHART: No, not at all. I think the President generally agrees with the sentiments that the First Lady expressed and with the fact that she did the interview and expressed these views.

Q What about the suggestion that there may have been some sort of abuse as a child?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think -- much of this is an old story, but there was some suggestion yesterday about some sort of physical abuse or something, and I can tell you that that's not the case. But the issues, the difficult issues the President faced growing up are a matter of record, the President has talked about them; the President's mother has written a book where she talks somewhat extensively about the problems in the household.

I think, as I said, the President is comfortable with what the First Lady has said. He has said in public that he faced difficulties, he faced responsibilities in his family, but, overall, he feels blessed with the kind of life that --

Q Did he read it?

MR. LOCKHART: When I talked to him this morning, he hadn't seen the whole article, but he had seen some of the reports on it.

Q One of the sentiments she expresses is that perhaps the reason he has had difficulties over the years is because he was under the pressure of being torn between a mother and grandmother. That is assigning some kind of responsibility elsewhere. Does he disagree with that part of --

MR. LOCKHART: I've read the whole article and I think the President and the First Lady completely agree. She expresses at another point in that article that he is responsible for his actions. The President has stated openly, publicly, that he is responsible for all of his actions and he's working hard to make right some mistakes he's made within his family.

Q Joe, I know that you've chosen this word "faced difficulties," "difficult issues" -- I guess you've chosen that word carefully. But there's a difference between saying, as a youth I faced difficulties, and saying, as a youth I was abused. So does the President believe that he was abused as a child?

MR. LOCKHART: David, there is a difference. But I'd suggest you go back and look at the article and look at what she said, because she didn't say that.

Q She said he was scarred by abuse.

MR. LOCKHART: Yes. And take that for what it should mean, which is there were difficulties in his family, he faced issues that were hard on him, they were hard on his family. These are all well documented. There is nothing new here. There is no -- excuse me, let me finish, Helen -- there are no new revelations to be made here. It is simply a reflection on his life, which is not unique. There are many people who face issues like this.

But, overall, the important thing is the President has expressed repeatedly, for those who ask, the idea that despite these difficulties he felt blessed with his life, with his family, with the love that he got and that there's nothing new here.

Q Joe, the thing that is new here is the suggestion that there's a connection between this conflict between his mother and his grandmother, the abuse he suffered because of it, and his adult behavior in his marriage.

MR. LOCKHART: Let me leave the suggestions to you and to others. I read the article. It is very clear on the subject of who's responsible for who's actions and the President has spoken directly to that.

Q I'm not saying that it says he isn't responsible. I'm saying that Mrs. Clinton seems to have drawn a connection between those -- that kind of abuse and his infidelity.

MR. LOCKHART: That may be what it seems to be and I'm not in a position

--

Q You're saying she was not trying to draw any connection?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not going to critique line by line the article.

Q But, Joe, how can you not draw any other inference from the fact that she's asked about his infidelities and she talks about his abuse?

MR. LOCKHART: Let me say the article speaks for itself. The President is comfortable with what was expressed in the article. He thought -- I think he and others believe that it was a generally favorable article about the First Lady.

Q There is a suggestion -- the reporter claims that friends say the President is going to seek therapy after he leaves the Oval Office. Is he comfortable with that?

MR. LOCKHART: We've gone down the road of friends say an awful lot in the last couple years here. I don't know anything about that. That's never been expressed to me. My understanding is the President continues to deal with the ministers that he talked about at the outset. I can't tell you about the details of that because they're private, but he has sought to work with the ministers who he's close with and friendly with, and that's the extent of it.

Q Joe, the First Lady has also --

Q Some of these ministers have degrees in other areas, like psychological -- well, psychology degrees. Is he dealing with ministers who have psychology degrees and deal on other issues --

MR. LOCKHART: April, I don't have the slightest idea. I know who the ministers are. I don't have the slightest idea what degrees --

Q Can you tell us who they are?

MR. LOCKHART: No, because this is something that's private. Although -- although at least one of them has not made a secret of the fact that he's talked to the President.

Q You've said some of these things are private, yet the First Lady's Chief of Staff is quoted as saying there's been an increase in the kind of physical passion between them. Now that puts it out as --

MR. LOCKHART: Puts what out?

Q Well, as an --

MR. LOCKHART: I was talking about his conversations with the ministers, which are private. And that's as it should be. I don't see how that relates to --

Q Do others in the White House staff feel the way Mrs. Clinton's Chief of Staff does, that there is a change in the President and the First Lady's relationship in what she's described as an increased --

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know. I haven't questioned the White House staff on that.

Q Joe, one of the things that is a little remarkable about this is that the President has repeatedly denied infidelities, and here's the First Lady laying out what appears to be a pattern of infidelity throughout their entire marriage, to the point of which she's even saying that the few years in the middle when there weren't any infidelities, which she points out as a sign of --

MR. LOCKHART: Jim, I've read the article, and I didn't take that from the article.

John?

Q Well, but isn't she -- she is saying, in fact, that there have been a number of infidelities in her marriage, is she not?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think the article speaks for itself.

Q Well, but if that is the case, the President has always denied that. How can the President be comfortable with his wife --

MR. LOCKHART: Well, you're now putting words in everybody's mouth, so -- I think the article speaks for itself. John?

Q Joe, let me just get specific about Gennifer Flowers. The President, who was not the President at the time, made the statement in '92, this was a woman I did not sleep with, denying any sexual allegations. Later on in testimony he acknowledged he had had a one-time only sexual relationship with Gennifer Flowers.

Mrs. Clinton, in the interview in Talk, refers to Gennifer Flowers and talks about it, after the Gennifer episode she thought he had -- and I'm paraphrasing here -- cleaned up his act, so to speak. This indicates that she knew about Gennifer Flowers at a time when he was publicly denying it. So she did know.

MR. LOCKHART: I don't have the slightest idea.

Next question.

Q Was there -- some people think that she wanted to get this out now to sort of preemptively take this stance before the politics of New York State get going. Was there, in your assessment, some sort of political strategy in her decision to talk about this right now?

MR. LOCKHART: None that I know of. It's a legitimate question to put to her spokesperson, but there's none that I know of.

Q Do you know why she did this now?

MR. LOCKHART: I think Marsha Berry did a good job of explaining yesterday, and I'll repeat what she said because I don't know anything more about it -- is that this was someone that she was talking to she felt comfortable with and who asked some questions and she answered them.

Q But George Stephanopoulos yesterday said the White House staff, meaning you, were blind-sided. Were you?

MR. LOCKHART: No. I understood from the First Lady's staff a couple weeks ago that she had talked to the magazine, that there would be an article coming out that I should look out for. (Laughter.)

Q Did they give you a sense of what would be in it?

MR. LOCKHART: No, I didn't press. I think they do a pretty good job of keeping us informed.

Q Let me see if I've got this straight. Your view is that the article does not assert that the President has had a long history of infidelities and does not assert that the President was the victim of child abuse in some form or fashion?

MR. LOCKHART: Certainly on the child abuse it asserts the facts, what's been talked about, that the President had difficulties within his family. These are well known. These are things that have been gone over, and cross-examined, and psychoanalyzed by many who are unprepared or unqualified to do so. But they've all been done.

Q But the person closest to him in life is referring to it as child abuse.

MR. LOCKHART: Read the article. And I think you'll -- read the article and look at the sentence, and I think you might take a different view than what you've just said.

Q Would trauma be a better word than abuse? Would trauma be a better word than abuse?

MR. LOCKHART: I think they all -- you guys are basically forgetting the facts, and trying to find a word, and taking the word, and trying to fill in some facts to fit it. The facts here are known. The idea of his family life is known. This was a way to describe difficulties in the family, and it shouldn't mean anything more than that. And it doesn't mean anything more than that.

Q But we're asking about the President's --

Q Affected?

MR. LOCKHART: Affected? I can't imagine that there's anyone who is an adult who isn't affected by how they grew up.

Q But we're asking about the President's response or reaction to this article. And you say that he finds it generally positive and agrees with the sentiments. In it she quite clearly says she believes her husband has been -- was scarred by abuse. That was her phrase.

MR. LOCKHART: Her phrase. Yes.

Q And he agrees with that?

MR. LOCKHART: He is comfortable with the way she talked about things and the way that she expressed her views.

Q Joe, let me make clear one other thing, if I could.

MR. LOCKHART: Yes.

Q Are you disputing what appears to be the thrust of her comments, which is that the President has had a lifelong, a marriage-long problem with infidelity?

MR. LOCKHART: Let me put it to you this way. I'm not going to get into, standing here, issues that the President has addressed directly and has nothing more to say on. And I'm not going to get into any more detail on this. I have said that he's comfortable with the article, and the fact that she did it. And that's all I can say.

Q Did the First Lady consult him in advance before opening up on this subject?

MR. LOCKHART: Not that I'm aware of.

Q And was he surprised at the depth --

MR. LOCKHART: Not that I'm aware of. I can't think that anyone would be surprised that these questions would come up, and at some point she'd provide some answers.

Q Joe, in any political campaign or potential campaign, you always bring in the spouse and your relationship. Is the President and the White House anticipating more unearthed facts about the past, to let America -- or New York -- know --

MR. LOCKHART: April, that question presumes that we're dealing with unearthing more facts here. We're not. That's -- what we're dealing with here is going over things that we know. And as far as I can tell from reading the article, there's nothing new here.

Q Words like "trauma" and "abused" were used. They weren't used like that before --

MR. LOCKHART: I think if you read -- if you look at what the President's mother talked about, if you look at her book, you'll find that these aren't new ideas.

Q Joe, not to belabor the point, but what's new, obviously, is the First Lady blaming the President's infidelities, at least in part, on his abuse.

MR. LOCKHART: I wouldn't quite draw a straight line between the two, but that is an interpretation that you all will have to make for yourself.

Q Does Stephanopoulos have an entree in the White House? I mean, he has a close relationship, that he would know what the thinking was.

MR. LOCKHART: Beats me.

Q But Joe, you're trying to tell us that the First Lady made no connection between -- in this article -- between the President's childhood and his infidelities?

MR. LOCKHART: No. I'm trying to caution you from trying to overemphasize the importance. But I have no greater insight than any of you do on that, so I can't offer you any critique.

Q Joe, she said in the article that she thought he had worked through this 10 years ago. Did he go through any sort of counseling or therapy 10 years ago, before he entered office?

MR. LOCKHART: Not that I'm aware of.

Q Sorry to change the subject. (Laughter.) Tomorrow's --

MR. LOCKHART: We'll be back.

Q Tomorrow's event in Chicago, what will --

MR. LOCKHART: Yes, the President will be dealing primarily with some of the first solid numbers coming out as a result of the 1996 Welfare-to-Work Act. And I think the message that he'll be delivering tomorrow is that the Welfare-to-Work Initiative has worked. It's worked all over the country, in every state of the country. It has exceeded, in many places, our expectations. And that there's still more work to be done. But fundamentally, the President's initiative to move people from welfare to work has worked around this country.

Q At the time he talked a lot about employers were going to have to take a chance on people coming off welfare. Is there going to be any kind of a thrust in that direction tomorrow? I mean, does corporate --

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think the President has -- you've seen him standing side-by-side with Eli Segal and those in the Welfare To Work partnership. This really is a success story that involves both the way the federal government has worked, with the way state and local government has worked and why corporate America has worked. There have been tens of thousands of companies now who have taken a chance, brought people in off the welfare rolls -- and the vast majority of those have been very happy with the results.

Q You don't deny that there have been those who don't have the safety net anymore, are not getting adequate pay and have really suffered a hardship under this cocoon?

MR. LOCKHART: I think there is certainly more work to be done and the President recognizes that. But, overall, if you look back, particularly with the new numbers, the numbers the President will talk about tomorrow, the Welfare To Work initiative has been a success story.

Q And that's it, he's not doing anything else in Chicago, no other --

MR. LOCKHART: It's Welfare To Work -- I don't know what else he has on the schedule. Okay, nothing else --

Q There's no fundraiser, no nothing?

MR. LOCKHART: No.

Q Has the administration -- dates and numbers that they had plotted for?

MR. LOCKHART: For the White House?

Q The White House as well as --

MR. LOCKHART: Let me do the White House first. I think we have gone past our number. We did that sometime ago. We brought on a total of eight, we have seven currently working here. As far as the federal government goes, our target was 10,000 by the year 2000, we're already at 14,000. The Vice President made that announcement this morning, I believe. So, yes and yes.

Q How disappointed were you that four Senate Democrats chose to support the Republican tax bill? You've described the bill as very irresponsible and many other things and, yet, four leading Democrats actually, or at least three of them leaders in the party, decided to support it. Is that a disappointment to you?

MR. LOCKHART: I think the President believes we've taken a long, hard look at the numbers and the numbers -- certainly the numbers the Republicans are talking about don't add up. You can't do what we all say we want to do -- and I think we share with those Democratic leaders a commitment to shoring up Social Security and providing for Medicare and providing for investments -- but the numbers at \$800 billion, the numbers at \$500 billion, frankly, don't add up.

So we're going to continue -- I don't think whether they be Republican leaders or Democratic leaders who voted with Republicans, have come forward and demonstrated how you can both do what we need to do on Social Security and Medicare and avoid the kind of cuts up to 50 percent in domestic discretionary spending to avoid going back into deficit spending. So we'd be happy if someone could provide some sort of road map that got us there, but it just can't be done.

Q But I'm asking more as a political matter. I mean, is it really a bad sign? I mean, if they had that many Democrats who would support that large a tax cut, if we're talking about a \$500 billion tax cut --

MR. LOCKHART: Listen, we talked about a -- they did talk about a \$500 billion tax cut and they couldn't even get it to the floor. So let's deal with reality. Forty-one out of 45 Democrats I think were satisfied with it.

Q Let me just ask one more follow-up on that. I mean, also one of your key criticisms of this tax cut package is that it would infringe on Social Security and Medicare. And, yet, I think John Breaux and Bob Kerrey, who were both appointed by Senator Daschle to be on the Medicare Commission, cannot be accused of being -- they've been leaders on those issues. Doesn't that undermine your argument a little bit? How do you account for their --

MR. LOCKHART: No, I don't think it does, because I think the numbers speak for themselves. We have put out real numbers that you don't need smoke and mirrors to make work on what we need to do. Senator Breaux had some ideas on Medicare that the President doesn't agree with. It's an honest disagreement. It does not bode negatively for their relationship and their ability to work on other issues. But we believe, as the President said, we need to do first things first, at Social Security and Medicare, and he just can't do it. You just can't do it and provide for a \$900 billion tax cut.

Q But he said specifically that the Republican tax cut does nothing for Medicare. So you're saying that Senator Breaux and Kerrey would support a bill that does nothing for Medicare.

MR. LOCKHART: They have certainly, in this case, supported this tax plan that doesn't make the investment in Social Security and Medicare that's needed. Again, when you look at the -- you take the Medicare Commission, for example, that we had some policy disputes. The President believes that Senator Breaux moved the ball a long way, but we have some disputes over raising the eligibility age and some of the premium income support, where we just disagree. It's just that simple.

Q Joe, do you want to take another stab at explaining what kind of deal was at stake in the President nominating Ted Stuart for U.S. District Court judgeship and what that means for his relationship with --

MR. LOCKHART: Can you read back what I said this morning?

Q Well, you said it was unintelligible, what he said this morning.
(Laughter.)

MR. LOCKHART: Okay. So the challenge here is to be unintelligible, make it even more unintelligible. We have a number of nominees that have been stalled in the committee. It's our hope that Senator Hatch, now that his main obsession on one candidate and all of his time is freed up from worrying and fretting over that, that he will find some time to turn his attention to other nominees. We've already seen a little bit of progress on that and we hope to see more.

Q Joe, what about your position now -- the President is going to declare disaster areas in some agricultural sectors -- what about the \$10 billion supplemental that the

Democrats in the Senate were pushing?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, there is a proposal. As you know, we have over the last couple of years had to through the year provide some emergency relief. The President believes that there are some fundamental safety-net issues that Freedom to Farm has left farmers exposed to, and those -- they're quite technical within the farm program, but have to do with crop insurance and market assistance payments to farmers in times of desperate need. I think the President -- before getting out this year on emergency relief -- believes that Congress needs to take a more fundamental look at the Freedom to Farm measure that passed in 1996, because otherwise we might be forced to face this kind of cycle of emergency spending every year, and he doesn't think that's the best way to go about that.

So, hopefully, Congress can take a look at how some of the Ag programs are administered and then we can look at the needs of real farmers this year to see what kind of emergency relief they may need.

Q So it's not enough of a crisis to have to act immediately with a supplemental?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think -- we have done an enormous amount of stuff as far as reprogramming, tripling the amount of wheat that we've exported through some of the food programs -- so we continue to work to address these problems. I think we just had an initiative on pork within the last month or so. So it isn't an either/or. We continue to address the problems -- the real problems that farmers face across this country and will continue to do that, but we do think that there need to be some changes. We asked Congress last year for some fixes. We will talk to them again this year about trying to get some of those implemented. But I think that needs to be addressed rather than -- in an attempt to avoid a year-by-year emergency spending cycle.

Q So no supplemental? No supplemental?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, there's no supplemental right now, but I think there's clearly needs for farmers, and as we move through this year, and as we address some of the structural problems within the farm programs there may, very well, be some emergency funding.

Q Well, what we're saying is obviously the administration doesn't think that it's necessary to move now, or that it's not so pressing.

MR. LOCKHART: No, I think what the administration is doing is we are moving now. We're doing a number of things --

Q How soon would a review be over? And how soon could Congress --

MR. LOCKHART: These things are all going on concurrently within Congress. Congress will only be here for another two months this year. We're not talking

about delaying something, you know, into next year or the year beyond. This will all get done within this Congress. And we will support what the President believes are appropriate changes, if we can get them done, in the structural farm programs, and the appropriate level of emergency funding, should we deem that necessary.

Q Joe, just to be clear, when you say we've done things already, like reprogramming, tripling the wheat index -- those are things you can do without Congress?

MR. LOCKHART: Yes.

Q Okay. And then you're also asking for Congress to make these structural changes.

MR. LOCKHART: Right. That is correct.

Q Do you have a proposal of structural changes --

MR. LOCKHART: We sent up a bunch of ideas last year, not all of which was implemented. I don't have a precise what got left out, what got in.

Q So there is a vehicle?

MR. LOCKHART: Yes, there's certainly things -- there's certainly a framework for this discussion. And we hope we can make some of these changes.

Q How often is this discussion occurring? Are you talking to Daschle's people about this, or Republicans, or aides actively working this issue --

MR. LOCKHART: We talk to farm state Senators on a regular basis, both Democrats and Republicans.

Q Just to clarify this, prior to those structural changes being addressed, the President would not back an emergency supplemental right now?

MR. LOCKHART: No, I don't think -- this process is going along, as I said, concurrently. We have done a number of things to try to ease the plight of farmers.

Q I'm talking about the specific \$10 billion request.

MR. LOCKHART: I understand that. We've done a number of things to try to ease the plight of farmers, through reprogramming the way money goes out, getting more assistance to farmers. We've also done things today, very specific things like disaster areas, which I think will impact. As we move forward in the year, we will assess the need and the level of emergency spending. But we don't want this thing to get lost -- the overall debate should not get lost, and we should not try to solve this problem every year through an emergency farm legislation, or through emergency spending.

Q Joe, what do you make of Wen Ho Lee's -- on China spying, what do you make of Wen Ho Lee's comments yesterday on 60 Minutes, that it's common practice for computers to transfer secret information from classified to unclassified?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know -- I have no way to assess whether it's common practice. What I do know is that that would violate the internal safeguards within the Energy Department. So whether it's common or not, it shouldn't be done.

Q Well, the charge is that John Deutsch did the same thing, and was given a slap on the wrist, yet Wen Ho Lee, when he did it, lost his job and has been abused ever since.

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I'm not familiar with those charges. I'd refer you over to the Energy Department on that. As far as the overall allegations of espionage, which have been well-reported, that is something the Justice Department is looking into, and I'm not in a position to comment on.

Q One more on agriculture. I mean, given that there are other things that you said you're doing, and that you might reform the Freedom to Farm Act, and so forth, and that there's not a need, maybe, to do this bill right away, doesn't \$10 billion sound like a lot of money, even down the line, for an emergency spending bill?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, all Americans understand that \$10 billion is a lot of money. We will realistically look at what we can do as far as making changes in the program, and then realistically look at what needs to be done as far as emergency spending. But that hasn't been done yet.

Q Will the President veto the \$4 billion emergency supplemental to pay for the census?

MR. LOCKHART: Let me look into that. I haven't seen that we've done a SAP on that. Supplemental on census?

MR. TOIV: I don't think we have.

Q He clearly doesn't think it's an emergency.

MR. LOCKHART: Oh, whether it comes -- I'm sorry. As far as the overall budget context, it's clearly not -- emergencies are something that you can't predict. I'd love to have a ticket for the Republican explaining how they couldn't predict the census. That would be a pretty good routine.

Whether and how that will come down here, I don't know. It's not clear to me that it will come down here as a clean supplemental on just one issue. So we'll have to take that as it comes.

Q Thank you.

END 12:45 P.M. EDT

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27TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

SHOW: 60 MINUTES II (8:00 PM ET)

May 26, 1999, Wednesday

TYPE: Interview

LENGTH: 4321 words

HEADLINE: HILLARY; FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON ON HER HUSBAND, THEIR YEARS IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND A POSSIBLE SENATE RUN

ANCHORS: DAN RATHER

BODY:

HILLARY

DAN RATHER, co-host:

She is a woman on a first-name basis with the world. First lady Hillary Clinton is a political superstar. She has a history of making history, and tonight she's on vacation in Florida, deciding whether to do it again, this time by making a run for the United States Senate in New York.

We sat down together a few days ago and she talked her future and her recent past. She outlined what she believes in, what she hopes for, and how she's gotten through the hard times in the White House. As she prepares for a life after the White House, a life she now insists will be in New York, Mrs. Clinton is also steeling herself for tough questions from political friends and foes, and from the New York media.

And here's a tough question, one that you're gonna be asked repeatedly, time and again, and you're eventually going to have to answer. For whom do you root: the Mets or Yankees?

Mrs. HILLARY CLINTON: That's a very good question. You know, I just love baseball. So the politic answer is that, since I do plan to live in New York, no matter what I end up doing, I'll root for both.

RATHER: Ah, but you know New York. New York in many ways is split between those who cheer...

Mrs. CLINTON: I know.

RATHER: ...for the Mets and those who cheer for the Yankees.

Mrs. CLINTON: I know.

RATHER: So, I have to pressure you to come back. Mets or Yankees, Mrs. Clinton?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know Dan, that's one of those questions that I probably am gonna have to give serious thought to, to give you a final answer.

(Footage of Hillary Clinton walking with Dan Rather)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Hillary Rodham Clinton hasn't answered many questions in the past year and a half. Now even the easy questions have complicated answers. But, then, she's pretty complicated herself.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From previous video) You know, I suppose I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas, but what I decided to do was to fulfill my profession, which I entered before my husband was in public life, and I've tried very, very hard to be as careful as possible, and that's all I can tell you.

RATHER: Once, a political lightning rod...

Unidentified Announcer: (From graduation video) Hillary Rodham Clinton!

(Footage of Clinton at graduation; audience at graduation; Clinton waving to everyone)

RATHER: (Voiceover) ...today, she is political lightning, a crowd-pleaser and first-class fund-raiser, a person under enormous pressure to step into the arena, this time on her own.

Let's talk about the New York Senate race. We can't do this interview and not talk about it.

Mrs. CLINTON: Right.

RATHER: So it's in the papers again now. You've made up your mind to run. It's just a matter of time or an announcement. Is that a fair description of where you are?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, not really. I'm still thinking about it. People are still talking to me about it. I've been very flattered by the people who've come to me and asked me to consider it, and I'm obviously very interested. It's such a big decision. You know, a--a year ago it had never crossed my mind. Even six months ago, it wasn't anything that I'd ever thought about, but I'm very committed to, you know, learning about a lot of different issues that I've worked on all my life, and how they affect people in New York, because I think that, you know, everything that happens in America happens in New York. And as I've listened to people and talked with them, the kinds of things I care about: education and health care, better jobs, better, you know, balance between work and family, the kinds of issues that I think are gonna be on the front burner in the years to come are ones that are of great concern to New Yorkers and of great concern to me.

RATHER: Why New York? Why not Illinois or Arkansas, where you spent a lot of you time?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know, I never would have predicted that this event could have occurred, that I would be considering this, but people came to me and asked me to consider it. And of course, I'd been thinking about and talking to Bill about, you know, living there after we finish in the White House. I think that both of us would really enjoy that. So it just all kind of came together, and that's why I'm--I'm pursuing it and considering it so seriously.

(Footage of Clinton with the president; Clinton holding a baby; Clinton posing for the cameras)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She talks like a candidate, and she walks like a candidate, and she kisses babies with the best of them. But she remains stubbornly coy about whether she'll run and when she'll decide.

RATHER: You really haven't made the final decision?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, I haven't. I haven't.

RATHER: Have you made a final decision to at least launch an exploratory committee?

Mrs. CLINTON: No. I've considered that carefully. And that would be the next step that I would take, if I go forward.

(Footage of Clinton with the president and Chelsea on Election Night 1992; Clinton with baby in foreign country; Clinton with refugees; Clinton in a classroom; Clinton with Senator Charles Schumer)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She has been pushing forward and pushing the envelope since Election Night 1992, building a reputation here, and abroad, for her work with women, children and families. She has gone the extra mile to visit refugees, returned home to push for public schools, and crisscrossed the country to campaign for Democratic candidates and causes.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From previous video) More than 35 million households across America have guns. And in a third of those homes, the guns are stored loaded and unlocked.

(Footage of Clinton giving speech about gun control at Columbine High School)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Since the killings at Columbine High School, she has waded into the war over gun control, and led the national grieving.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From Columbine speech) What happened here at Columbine has so deeply affected the rest of our country that we are all Columbine.

(Footage of Clinton and the president at Littleton)

RATHER: (Voiceover) On the day we met, those issues were on her mind again. She and the president had spent a long day in Littleton, Colorado, meeting with parents who lost children in the violence at Columbine High.

What can you say to them? What do you say to them?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, Dan, it's--it's one of the hardest things Bill and I have to do. And, you know, we've had to do too much of it in the last six and a half years. You know, today we did a lot of hugging, a lot of saying how sorry we were. We looked at a lot of mementos, and then we talked about what we could learn from this, and what we could do to try to make sure it never happened again, if that were humanly possible.

RATHER: Tell me what you talked about.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, a lot of them have, you know, been thinking hard about what they could do to give meaning to this. You know, they don't want their children to have died in vain, and neither do we. So some said 'Well, we hope that parents will just hold their kids tight and spend time with them.' And a lot of the parents wanted to go out and speak to other parents about how precious this time with children is. Some were very anxious to talk about the need for better gun laws and then to enforce those laws, to make sure that, you know, people didn't get away breaking laws, and whatever new ones we needed should be passed and implemented.

Some wanted to talk about the culture and what we could try to do to send stronger signals about how to really turn this culture around, this culture of violence that people have, I think, rightly talked about. So there were so many different ideas. But what was so heartening to both Bill and me is how, in the midst of such an enormous tragedy, you know, that neither of us could even comprehend, these people were looking for hope and meaning. They really want America to not just have the feeling of hurt and sorrow that we all feel, but to do something with that feeling, and to really make some of the changes that could make a difference.

RATHER: Colorado, like many states in the West, Southwest, South, is in some ways, a gun culture. I mean, people here grow up with guns. Guns are pervasive. Was there any talk of that?

Mrs. CLINTON: I think that there was talk about the need for better gun laws, and to implement them. But, you know, America's become a gun culture in many respects. We have so many guns. And I was pleased that the Senate did pass some meaningful gun legislation, and I hope that they'll continue to do more, and I hope the House will agree. And that, you know, we will close loopholes. And that we will make a very clear statement that we're not going to permit guns to fall into the hands of disturbed or criminal juveniles or anyone else for that matter.

(Footage of Clinton and the president in Littleton)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She says that if she runs for the Senate, it will be because of what she's learned in places like Littleton, and in spite of what she's lived through in Washington.

Question, Mrs. Clinton: With all that you've been through in politics, you know, virtually under siege for at least the last year and a half, why in the world would you want to go into that kind of campaign...

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know...

RATHER: ...particularly in a tough state like New York?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know Dan, I--you know I just spent the afternoon listening to people who'd suffered an unspeakable tragedy, losing their children in the Columbine High School killings, and they wanted to talk about what we could do together. They wanted to talk about how we could bring people together to solve our problems. They were not filled with bitterness or hatred. They were filled with hope and positive energy.

And I respond to that. I've--I'm someone who thinks that, you know, we are so blessed to live in this country. And, for me, having an opportunity to serve in the United States Senate, if that's what I were to decide to do and were fortunate enough for the people of New York to give me that chance, would enable me to work with people and bring people together and try to solve problems that were on people's minds.

(Footage of Clinton and family with dog)

RATHER: (Voiceover) But what's on the minds of many Americans is her marriage and the personal troubles that have been played out so painfully, so publicly.

President BILL CLINTON: (From previous video) These allegations are false.

RATHER: In a year and a half of denials and details and DNA, she has maintained her silence.

You know, you never met anybody who wants to respect your privacy more than I do...

Mrs. CLINTON: Thank you.

RATHER: ...but you're a very public person...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: And sooner or later in New York, they're gonna say, 'Why are you still with this man?'

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, you know, we've been together for, I guess, 28 years. We've been married--we'll be married 24 years this year. And we have a deep and abiding commitment to one another. And it is something that has been part of our lives, really, almost from the time we met. And, you know, I'm--I'm old-fashioned enough not to talk about my private life, and I respect your respect for it, but I--I think that, you know, I look back on all of those years together and it's just something that means a great deal to both of us.

RATHER: Given what you've been through the last year and a half or two years, did you ever consider leaving him?

Mrs. CLINTON: I'm not going to talk about that. I--I respect you, Dan, but I'm not going to answer those questions.

(Footage of Clinton talking to Rather; Washington, DC; Clinton at the State of the Union address)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She doesn't bat an eye, and she doesn't give an inch. She has set firm boundaries that she doesn't want broken. And whether she runs for Senate or not, she is already on a campaign to make Americans define public and private the way she does.

Pres. CLINTON: (From State of the Union address) In her historic role to serve our nation and our best ideals...

RATHER: But in the Clinton White House, public and private, his past and her future, are hard to separate.

If you were to run and if you were to be elected, you would walk into the United States Senate, famous or infamous, depending upon your point of view, as being a pit of deal-making compromise. And you'd be walking into a Senate in which a large number of the senators were the same senators who had put your husband on trial and, indeed, tried to run both of you out of Washington, for all intents and purposes.

Mrs. CLINTON: But, you know, it is the United States Senate. It's part of the most important legislative body, I would argue, in the history of the world. And there are a lot of good things and there are a lot of good people who are working hard together. And, you know, after all the years that I've been in Washington, and after all the difficulties and the challenges that you refer to, you know, I still really believe that we are blessed to be Americans and that public service is a privilege.

So I'm not at all discouraged or pessimistic about the political process. I just know how tough it is. I know a lot more about that than I did before I got to Washington.

RATHER: And much of what she learned came during the impeachment of her husband. In a moment, the first lady speaks personally about that, about how she survived it, and about the messages sent to young people in America by the president's behavior.

(Announcements)

RATHER: Polls show she is one of the most admired women in America, but even after seven years in the spotlight, she remains a riddle for many people. It's hard to know what keeps her going: through marital problems made public; political fights turned ugly; through triumphs, disasters, and always the demands of her work. Tonight we get some answers about how she does it from the only person in the world who really knows.

Mrs. CLINTON: You know, I've--I've been really blessed. I mean, I know people might look at this and think, 'Oh, my gosh,' you know, 'with what she's been through, how can she say that?' But...

RATHER: Hard to see how you've been blessed the last year and a half or so.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, but, you know, nobody would wish on anyone what we and the country have gone through the last year and a half or so, but I also have learned a lot. And I have been able to share experiences with people that have been extraordinary, with their outreach to me, their prayers, their good wishes,

their concerns.

RATHER: Seven years ago on "60 Minutes," she seemed to ridicule the idea of staying with a straying husband.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From 1992 "60 Minutes") You know, I'm not sitting here as some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette. I'm sitting here because I love him and I respect him and I honor what he's been through and what we've been through together. And, you know, if that's not enough for people, then, heck, don't vote for him.

(Footage of Clinton talking with Rather)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Today she doesn't talk about fidelity. She talks about forgiveness, and dealing with personal pain.

Mrs. CLINTON: Sometimes things come totally out of the blue, and something good or terrible happens to you, neither one of which you could have predicted, and--and probably certainly don't deserve. Life is not by any means fair or easy for anyone, but part of what I think we're challenged to do is to keep trying. And to keep trying not only on our own behalf, but on behalf of anyone whom we can touch and whom we can help.

RATHER: You mentioned you're a religious person. Did you find yourself praying more over the most difficult period?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I've--I've prayed a lot ever since we've been in the White House. It's been--it's been a circumstance that certainly requires a lot of prayer and a lot of people...

RATHER: You smile, but I sense you're serious.

Mrs. CLINTON: Well--well, I'm very serious about it. I have prayed a lot and I've been prayed for a lot. And I have been grateful for the prayers of people I know, and people I will probably never meet. And it has helped me enormously. And, you know, sometimes it's--it's--it's a way not only of pouring your heart out, but of really getting filled up again with, you know, some energy and some hopefulness and positive feelings that can carry you forward.

(Footage of Clinton addressing a committee)

RATHER: (Voiceover) She has always been more comfortable explaining health care...

Mrs. CLINTON: (From committee video) On the benefits package, we have priced that out very carefully, congressman.

(Footage of Clinton talking to press)

RATHER: (Voiceover) more effective fighting off financial questions...

Mrs. CLINTON: We went into Whitewater to make money, not to lose it.

(Footage of Clinton on "Today" show)

RATHER: (Voiceover) ...more at ease on national television blaming partisan politics for her husband's problems.

Mrs. CLINTON: (From "Today" show video) It's this vast right-wing conspiracy that has been conspiring against my husband since the day he announced for president.

(Footage of Clinton and the president at the public gathering)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Hillary Rodham Clinton's latest incarnation is probably the one she likes least: long-suffering wife; for some, an object of sympathy.

(Excerpt from Democratic Convention; Clinton with the president at Democratic conventions; Clinton sitting with the president; Clinton getting out of limo; Clinton addressing New York Democrats; Clinton with teen-agers; Clinton with Boys and Girls Clubs members)

RATHER: (Voiceover) But now the woman who has always been at his side and on his side may be about to step out on her own. And as she flirts with a run for the Senate, she is once again on the brink of breaking new ground for American first ladies. Soon she could be campaigning for herself. But the agenda she lays out seems downright old-fashioned. She sees her work as focusing on children and families, and the unique problems they face today.

Mrs. CLINTON: In some ways, I think we've been running kind of an experiment, if you will, in raising of children. It's not anything anybody planned. It's been unwitting. But we've been changing the way we live, and we've been tearing down a lot of our institutions, we've been undermining a lot of old values. We've allowed all kinds of influences in our front doors that we never would have before, to influence the lives of our children. We've worked in ways, and our families are structured differently than was ever done before. So there's just been many, many things that have changed within one or two generations, which we really have to pay attention to. And we--and we really have to start taking some action on--on behalf of our kids.

RATHER: Give me a specific one or two things, something concrete you think we could do and should be doing.

Mrs. CLINTON: We have to be better connected to each other and particularly to our children. We have to do more to build a sense of community. Now what does that mean? Well, it may mean that our high schools and our schools are too large for children to really feel connected to the adults who are there, for the adults to know them. You know, I was recently in a school in Queens, in New York City, and--and I was just stunned that in a school built for 1,500 kids, there were 2000 kids, and that there were gonna be 500 more because of overcrowding.

You know, that sends a real message to children that, 'You're not our first priority. We're not gonna make space for you.' I go to so many towns and see now schools that have no play areas, where kids have no safe places where they can gather. It's very different from the way most of us grew up. It is just a lot harder to be--to be a child today. You know, if--if we were doing something in the front yard of our house when my mother wasn't home and the woman across the street saw us, she'd be out in a minute to tell us to, you know, stop doing

that or she'd tell our mother. We could walk down sidewalks. We could ride our bikes to the parks.

There were so many other ways that we were connected. The church was a big part of our life. You know, my father was home for dinner every night at the same time. We have changed so much about how we live that I don't think it's useful at all to point fingers and place blame. It's much more a question of how each us will take responsibility in our own lives, and in our professional and public lives, you know, to begin to speak out and make the changes that we need.

RATHER: You mentioned again children.

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: It--it's been--you know--it's been your--your burning passion--it's just--to what you've been connected for most of your career. Did or did not the president, your husband, last year, did he communicate mixed messages to young people about right and wrong?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I--you know--again, I'm not gonna go back and, you know, talk about that in any public way at this time. I think he has, himself, spoken about the people he let down and the disappointment he caused. So I will let him speak to that.

But I think no matter who you are or no matter what you do or what's done to you, there's always the chance to try to make it better. That there's always the hope for forgiveness; to forgive and be forgiven. And that comes certainly out of my religious faith, but it also comes out of my personal experience.

RATHER: Do you believe in redemption?

Mrs. CLINTON: Absolutely. I've seen too much of it. I've not only seen it in the lives of other people, I've seen it in my own, and those I love around me. So I do.

RATHER: Let's pretend for a moment it's 2050. There's an encyclopedia and it has a picture...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...of Hillary Rodham Clinton...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...one-time first lady of the United States. What do you think the caption under that picture will be?

Mrs. CLINTON: I have no idea. I have no idea. You know...

RATHER: What would you like it to be?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, my goodness. You know, I don't think about myself in those terms. I--I really do try to get up every day and just do the best I can.

I know that may sound sort of simple but that's how I live my life. And I think I've been sort of transition figure in the minds of a lot of Americans because of, oh, the age at which we came into office, the backgrounds we brought, the things we worked on. My concerns, which I try to continue advocate. So I think that I've been a transition figure. And I don't know what the final judgment on any of that will be.

RATHER: We've talked about the possibility of running for the Senate, you said that you're obviously interested in it. What are the possibilities that one day, someday, you'll run for president?

Mrs. CLINTON: Oh, my gosh, that's n--not possible I don't believe. I mean...

RATHER: You've thought about it though, haven't you?

Mrs. CLINTON: No, I haven't.

RATHER: Never considered it?

Mrs. CLINTON: People have said that to me, but it's something I've--I don't take seriously at all. It's not even--it's--it's not even the--the universe of--of my thinking.

RATHER: Like it or not, I know you'll like it not, your husband is one of two presidents to have been impeached.

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: Do you agree or disagree it's gonna be in the first paragraph of his obituary?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, I--I don't know. That depends--I suppose it depends on who writes the obituary. I don't think that it is by any means the most important contribution of his presidency, which I consider to be filled with very significant progress for our country.

RATHER: He told me that he'd--in an interview...

Mrs. CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

RATHER: ...that he did not consider it a badge of shame. Do you?

Mrs. CLINTON: It was such a political process. It was--it was a tragically political misfortune for our country. And I think that when the history is written it'll be seen in a broader context and will be more understood.

RATHER: You've talked about that before, but--if--now have a chance to reflect on a little, of all the allegations, accusations, charges made, what do you consider the most--the--the most unfair attack?

Mrs. CLINTON: Well, you know, I think that the entire process was an unfortunate one, and I'm just glad it's behind us now. I'm glad that--that we survived that painful period. And it was painful. It was painful obviously for me and for my family and for our country.

(Footage of Clinton talking to Rather; Clinton walking in crowd; woman using camera)

RATHER: (Voiceover) It is the most she will share about the past year and a half, and for some in our confessional society, that may not be enough. But Hillary Clinton doesn't care. She's intent on sharing something else: Not what she's gone through, but what she's come away with.

Mrs. CLINTON: You know, when you go through any kind of difficult experience, you have a choice. I mean, you can let it break you and embitter you, or you can take whatever you've experienced, whatever pain or suffering, and decide that you're still gonna have faith. You know, your faith in God, your faith in your fellow man, that you're still gonna believe that you can make a contribution to a better life. It's a choice. Every single day we wake up, you can choose to be cynical or hopeful. You can choose to be grateful or contemptuous. You can make all those choices. And for me, it's not a very hard choice.

(Announcements)

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: May 27, 1999

6TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

SHOW: 60 MINUTES II (9:00 PM ET)

March 31, 1999, Wednesday

TYPE: Profile

LENGTH: 4166 words

HEADLINE: PRESIDENT CLINTON; BILL CLINTON'S PRESIDENCY, THE AIR WAR AGAINST
SERBIAN FORCES IN KOSOVO AND HIS FAMILY

ANCHORS: DAN RATHER

BODY:

PRESIDENT CLINTON

DAN RATHER, co-host:

With the air war against Serbian forces entering its second intense week, we asked President Clinton to sit down and talk to us about Kosovo, about what to expect next there and about his presidency. He agreed, and this afternoon we met in the White House.

(Footage of President Clinton and Rather)

(Voiceover) After walking and talking for a short while, we sat down for our interview in the Cabinet Room, and the president talked passionately about the war tactics of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Pres. CLINTON: Look at what this guy did in Bos--let's go back to Bosnia, two million refugees, a quarter of a million people dead. And there is no question that this is his strategy. And I think he wanted to clean them out. I think he wanted to ethnically cleanse the country as much as he could. I think he wanted to drastically alter the population balance. I think he wanted to eradicate all the records of what--the--the Albanians and the property they owned. I think he wanted to erase history and start all over again. That's what I think.

RATHER: Is 'genocide' too strong a word, Mr. President?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, it--as you know, I--I--I've tried to be hesitant in using it. There is no question that a few 1,000 people have been murdered because they were Kosovar Albanians. There's no question about that.

RATHER: But you hesitate to use the word 'genocide.'

Pres. CLINTON: But I think because it--it's only a question of whether enough people have been killed yet. There's no question that what he was doing constitutes ethnic cleansing and that he was killing and uprooting people because of their ethnic heritage. There is no question about that. And I think that not only he, but others who have been in decision-making positions, have to be held accountable for what they've done. And, of course, this whole war crimes tribunal that's been set up to review what happened in the Balkans will have to review those facts. But the main thing I want to do is--whatever the label belongs on it--is to stop it if we can.

RATHER: Mr. President, there are reports that as we speak and through this evening that there will be air attacks in Belgrade itself, that you've gotten NATO to authorize it. Is that correct, is that accurate?

Pres. CLINTON: It is accurate that we are attacking targets that we believe will achieve our stated objective, which is either to raise the price of aggression to an unacceptably high level so that we can get back to talking peace and security, or to substantially undermine the capacity of the Serbian government to wage war.

RATHER: In the vernacular of the military, have you authorized them to go downtown?

Pres. CLINTON: I have authorized them to attack targets that I believe are appropriate to achieve our objectives. We have worked very hard to minimize the risks of collateral damage, but I do not believe that we can rule out any set of targets that are reasonably related to our stated objectives.

RATHER: When you say that you don't rule out any--any targets that could help you accomplish the mission, would that declining to rule out targets include the Defense Ministry, the Interior Ministry?

Pres. CLINTON: I just--I don't think I should discuss the specific targets, because I don't want to compromise our efforts to achieve them. But you can say that--that I didn't rule out any targets anywhere within Serbia or Kosovo that would be reasonably related to our objectives. You can say that.

(Footage of military plane; military tank; Albanians; burning villages; people dragging body bags)

RATHER: (Voiceover) Since the bombing began, the president acknowledged that the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo has gotten much worse. But he says that would have happened anyway. The forces of Serbian President Milosevic have continued to force tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians out of their homes and out of the country. Towns have been emptied, villages burned and there have been reports of mass killings.

Pres. CLINTON: We believe we can do something about it there, and I think we have to try.

RATHER: You still believe you can do something about it there? The last few days have indicated--well, it seemed from at least several points of view--Milosevic is winning and we're losing.

Pres. CLINTON: Well, we knew that that would happen in the first few days. He had planned this a long time. Keep in mind, before the first NATO plane got in the air, he already had the 40,000 troops there. Think how we would feel if this were going on and we were doing nothing. Now there--there's no question that in--we--we've run this air campaign for less than a week. We've been hampered by bad weather. We had to be cautious on the early nights to try to at least protect our planes as much as we possibly can against the air defenses, which are quite good. And so it takes awhile to get up and going, and against that, he had 40,000 troops and 300 tanks. It shouldn't surprise anybody that he's able to do a lot of what he intended to do, even though we've had some success in hitting his military targets in the last couple of days.

But I would urge the American people, and, indeed, the people of all the NATO nations, to--to have a little resolve here, to stay with your leaders, to give us a chance to--to really see this thing through. We cannot view this as something that will be instantaneously successful. This is something that will require some time. So I would ask for the American people to be patient and to be resolved and to be firm and to give our st--our plan a chance to take hold here.

RATHER: Mr. President, I want to read you what some fairly high-ranking military people have said privately. You would understand they didn't want their names attached to it. 'Dan, we're not employing the full power of our Air Force.' Another one, 'We ran over 200 bombing missions the first day when we moved against Saddam Hussein. There hasn't been a single day in which we've run as many as 50 bombing missions, ex--with the possible exception of today.'

Why aren't we going all out? You've described a situation that you feel passionately about and you think is wrong. You know...

Pres. CLINTON: But--but let me just say...

RATHER: ...everybody knows if you get in a street fight with a bully, you want to hit him the hardest at--right at first.

Pres. CLINTON: We have done this through and with NATO. It is an organization that operates by consensus. One of the things that has struck me is that in the last 48 hours, because of the actions taken by Mr. Milosevic, the will, the steel, the determination and the outright anger of our allies has been intensifying exponentially. So that we have now, I think, a stronger support than we have ever had for taking the most aggressive action we can. I understand the frustration of the--of some of our people in the Pentagon, but I think that the secretary of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs would tell you that--that I have worked very hard with them to give them the maximum possible leeway, showing sensitivity only to targets that might have marginal benefits but cause a lot of collateral damage. I don't want a lot of innocent Serbian civilians to die because they have a man running their country that's doing something atrocious. But some of them are at risk because of that and must be because we have targets that we need to go after.

RATHER: With all respect, but also directly, everybody acknowledges you have a brilliant mind, you're an excellent speaker, but sometimes people--people who support you and like you say, 'Well, he parses words too closely.' What 'is' is argument, all of that. I want to discuss ground troops in the context of

speaking as directly as you possibly can. When you say you have no intention to commit ground troops to accomplish your mission in Kosovo, does that mean we are not going to have ground troops in there way--no way, no how, no time?

Pres. CLINTON: It means just what it says. You know, you--I--I'll come back to the point, but you say people say I parse words too close. That's what they said about President Roosevelt, too. He made a pretty good president. And when people say you parse words too closely, it usually means they want to ask you a question and get you to give an answer which is inconsistent with the objective you're trying to pursue for the American people. And so you don't do what they want you to do. So normally they criticize you not for what you're doing, but for s--what they wish you would do.

RATHER: Sure.

Pres. CLINTON: Now, I have--I have--I have used those words carefully. I am very careful in the words I use. Now on the merits of it, the thing that bothers me about introducing ground troops into a hostile situation and into Kosovo and into the Balkans is the prospect of never being able to get them out. If you have a peace agreement, even if it's difficult and even if you have to stay a little longer than you thought you would, like in Bosnia, at least there is an exit strategy and it's a manageable situation. People are frustrated because we live in an age where everybody wants things to operate like a 30-second ad. This air campaign is not a 30-second ad. It's only been going on for a few days and it's been undermined to some extent by bad weather.

RATHER: Let me follow up on something, Mr. President. First of all, the pope has asked for an Easter suspension of the bombing. Are you prepared to do that?

Pres. CLINTON: I don't see how we can do that with what's going on on the ground there now. Mr. Milosevic is--is running those people to the Albanian borders and to the other borders by the thousands a day. He's killing people. No one would like more than I to properly observe Easter, which for Christians is the most important holiday of all, even more important than Christmas really because of what it symbolizes to the living. But it--we can't observe Easter and honor the Resurrection of Christ by allowing him another free day to kill more innocent civilians.

RATHER: And to those people who say, Mr. President, that this is the most important week in the whole Judeo Christian calendar, in many ways, because you have Passover, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, that it is, quote, "obscene" to be carrying on this kind of war during this period, you say what?

Pres. CLINTON: That we are acting in defense of the defenseless. We are not carrying on an aggressive war. We are acting at a time when he is going through the country, killing people of--according to reports, including moderate politicians, tried to destroy records of what their land holdings are that--trying to eradicate any historical record of their claim to their own land. I hate the idea of having to continue this campaign during this period, but I hate more the idea that we would walk away from this campaign while he continues to clean out house after house after house and village after village after village and kill a lot of innocent people. I think that is--I think that that would not serve to honor the occasion.

RATHER: Mr. President, as you always try to do, you're talking in measured tones as president of the United States. You have to be careful of what you say. But I'm told by those who are close to you that you have a lot of pent-up feelings about what's happening in the Balkans, what we're doing there. Can you share some of that with us?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, I guess I do have a lot of pent-up feelings, and I think the president's supposed to keep a lot of his feelings pent up. But let me say, I--I think throughout human history, one of the things that has most bedeviled human beings is their inability to get along with people that are different than they are, and their vulnerability to be led by demagogues who play on their fears of people who are different than they are. And here we are at the end of the Cold War, we're on the verge of the 21st century, and what is the dominant problem of our time, from the Middle East to Northern Ireland, to Bosnia, to Central Africa? People still wanting to kill each other because of their racial, their religious, their ethnic, their cultural differences. This is crazy.

RATHER: When we come back, Mr. Clinton talks about his presidency and events of the past year.

(Announcements)

RATHER: There was a point in the interview in the Cabinet Room this afternoon when the interview broadened out and President Clinton talked about what's happened the past year and his presidency.

Could you describe to me what you believe to be the responsibilities of a husband of a United States senator?

Pres. CLINTON: I don't know, but I'm willing to fulfill them. You know, I--I--I would do whatever. I would--I would fill in at dinners, make speeches when she had to vote. I would--I'd be the main casework officer of the New York office. I'd do whatever I was asked to do.

Let me say seriously, though, I--I--I have no earthly idea what my wife will do. I can tell you that before the--the--some New York officials came to her, it had never crossed her mind. And--and I still think it's a--it's a highly unusual thing. And I can imagine that many voters in New York would wonder whether--even though she and I firm--intended to move to New York after we left the White House--although I would also spend a lot of time at home in Arkansas--they would wonder, 'Well, you know, does this make sense for somebody to be a United States senator?' And that would be a burden she would have to carry in the campaign and to explain that. Why she was doing it, that she was asked to do it and demonstrate her commitment to the state and its issues. I--I think if she could win an election like that, she'd be magnificent. But whatever the duties are, you know, for 22 years now or more, we've done what I wanted to do in terms of my political career. So the deal I made was she gets the next 22 years, and if I'm still around after that, we can argue about the third phase. And so I'd be happy to be the spouse of a senator.

RATHER: And you expect to do that together as man and wife?

Pres. CLINTON: Oh, absolutely. I would--like I said, I--I d--I don't know

what the duties are, but I'm sure I could fulfill them.

RATHER: Mr. President, you know Americans like to know that the first family is OK, that they're doing all right. Given the year, plus what you and our first family have been through, tell us what you can about how the three of you are doing.

Pres. CLINTON: Well, I think given what we've been through, we're doing reasonably well. And, you know, we're not a large family, but we do love each other very much, and we work hard to support one another.

(Footage of Hillary Rodham Clinton in North Africa; Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea)

Pres. CLINTON: (Voiceover) And I think that this trip to North Africa has been a good thing, not only for our country, because I think Hillary's done a great job on it. And I think it must have been good for--for Hillary and Chelsea, too, to have that time together to do some exciting things, to be in a different environment, and I think they really enjoyed it.

But I think we're doing quite well considering what we've been through and--and God willing, we'll keep after it.

RATHER: Well, I asked you about the first family, how about yourself? You know, we're here in a room with pictures of Lincoln, Washington, the Continental Congress. When you look back over this year plus, I mean--you know, what's the moral of it? Does it have a moral?

Pres. CLINTON: Oh, yes, I think there is more than one lesson here. I think first of all, the moral is there's a personal moral, which is that every person must bear the consequences of his or her conduct. And when you make a mistake, you pay for it, no matter who you are. And it's true, whether or not it's made public or whether or not what's made public is exactly an accurate reflection of what, in fact, happened, that's not the im--important thing. The important thing is that there are consequences in people's personal lives no matter who they are.

The second lesson is that the Constitution works. The Founding Fathers were smart people. They understood that partisan passions would s--would very often get carried away and the temptation to seize on events of the moments would be too great and that's why they wrote the Constitution the way they did. And they were awfully smart.

The third thing that I think we learned this year is that the American people almost always get it right if you give them enough time to think through things and--and really work on it.

And the fourth thing I think we learned is that people expect their elected officials to work for them and not to to be focused on themselves or their adversaries in Washington, and that they will reward those who they believe get up every day and show up for work and work for them and their future and their children, and they will take account of those they believe do not. Those are, I think, the lessons of the last year.

RATHER: You said the American people if given enough time, did you ever

consider resigning?

Pres. CLINTON: Never.

RATHER: Never for a second?

Pres. CLINTON: Never, not a second, never, never.

RATHER: Never entered your mind?

Pres. CLINTON: Never entered my mind.

RATHER: Did the first lady ever come to you and say, 'Listen, I think we ought to at least consider it?'

Pres. CLINTON: No. She felt at least as strongly as I did that it shouldn't be done.

RATHER: That tells me she might have felt even stronger.

Pres. CLINTON: At least as strongly as I did. But it never crossed my mind. I wouldn't do that to the Constitution. I wouldn't do that to the presidency. I wouldn't do that to the history of this country. I would never have legitimized what I believe is horribly wrong with what has occurred here over the last four or five years.

RATHER: Mr. President, you--sorry.

Pres. CLINTON: And so it never crossed my mind. And--and I always had faith. I just fate--I--I--I prayed about it. I--I--I tried to work on maintaining my inner spiritual strength, I tried to come to grips with the work I had to do personally with my family and myself and the work I owed the American people. And I just decided that, you know, that of all the options available, that wasn't one, and it never entered my mind.

RATHER: Mr. President, I get a lot of letters, not as many as you, do but I get a lot of letters from parents who say--some of them say, 'Listen, I like President Clinton. I like what he's doing for the country.' Some of them even say, 'I'd vote for him again, but I don't know what to tell the children.' On the--on the worst aspects of what's happened last year, let's try to give these parents some help. I mean, what--what can they tell the children? What do the children...

Pres. CLINTON: What's interesting--you know, I--I get a lot of letters from parents and from children--interesting letters from children, and sometimes pretty young children--11- and 12-, 13-year-old kids writing me. Some of them on this very point, and offended that they're being used in that way and because--what they say is, 'What I learned from this is what my parents always told me, that nobody is so big or so important that they're not subject to the same rules of human conduct and that when they do things they shouldn't, they have to bear the consequences. But that if they--they bear the consequences, say they're sorry, and go on, they should be able to go on with their lives because they also know that every person makes mistakes. No one is so big or so important that they are perfect.' And so that's what I would say to our children.

That's what I think the lessons of all those Bible stories are of the great figures in the Bible who did things they shouldn't have done. The--the reason those stories are in the Bible is to say, 'Everyone sins, but everyone is held accountable, and everyone has a chance to go on.' And that all three of those points need to be made. And if you say that to our children--I think that's what needs to be said. Kids are pretty smart. And they--this is a good lesson, not a bad lesson for them. I'm sorry that I had to be the example, and it's painful, but the lessons--the right lessons properly learned will be good for them and good for our country.

RATHER: Last question if you'll indulge me. You agree that whatever you do, however this situation in Kosovo turns out, whatever else you do, in the first paragraph of your obituary is going to be a reference to what you consider among the worst things that's ever happened to you, only president in the 20th century to be im--impeached, only--one of only two presidents to be impeached. Give me some sense of how you feel about that within--within yourself?

Pres. CLINTON: Well, first of all, I'm not at all sure that's right, that it will be the first paragraph of the obituary. And secondly, if it is, if the history writers are honest, they'll tell it for just exactly what it was. And I am honored that something that was indefensible was pursued and that I had the opportunity to defend the Constitution. That doesn't have anything to do with the fact that I did something I shouldn't have done, which I'm ashamed of and which I apologize for, but it was--it had nothing to do with the impeachment process, and I think that's what the American people, two-thirds of them, knew all along. And I--and I stood--and I determined that I would defend the Constitution and the work of my administration and those that did not agree with what I had done and were furious that it had worked and that the country was doing well and attempted to use what should have been a constitutional and legal process for political ends did not prevail. And that's the way I saw it. I have no lingering animosity. I don't wake up every day mad at those people.

RATHER: You've got to be bitter about some of that.

Pres. CLINTON: I'm not. I--I have--I'm not. I learned--look, I'm not. Not--and I'm--I'm not saying that for any reason other than that I have--part of the learning process that I went through in the last six years, but certainly in the last--and in the last several years when I was dealing with this, when I saw, you know, the--all these other charges, they were always false, they never amounted to anything, and--and half the people that were propagating them knew they were false. I realized that particularly in the last year, if I wanted people to give me forgiveness, I had to extend forgiveness. If I wanted to be free to be the best president and the best husband and father and the best person I could be, I had to free myself of bitterness. And I have worked very hard at it.

And I have had very powerful examples. I look at a man like Nelson Mandela who suffered enormously. Yes, he was part of a political movement that was threatening to the people who were in, but he didn't deserve to go to jail for 27 years, and in the 27 years he was there, he purged himself of his hatred and also of whatever might have been wrong with himself and his hatred of other people. And now if a person like that can rid himself of bitterness, what I went through was peanuts compared to that. It was nothing. And I--I think it's

an--and any moment I spend full of anger and bitterness is a moment I am robbing from my wife or from my daughter or from my country or from my friends. So it's--it's almost a selfish decision.

But I do not regard this impeachment vote as some great badge of shame. I do not because it was--I do not believe it was warranted, and I don't think it was right. And I believe, frankly, if you look back at President Andrew Johnson who, unfortunately, because of the circumstances under which he came to office, didn't have the opportunity to achieve very much while he was president, I think most people believed that he was unjustly impeached and that the fact that he stood up to it and refused to give in and came within--much closer than I did, he came within only a vote of actually being removed...

RATHER: True.

Pres. CLINTON: ...reflects well on him in the history of the country, not poorly.

And so I just don't have a--bad feelings about that. But neither do I have feelings of anger and bitterness against those who did what they did, whether they believed it or whether it was political or whatever. I just think that it's--it's past us and we need to put it behind us and we need to go on. We owe that to the American people, to let it go. And all of us owe it to our families and our personal lives. All the great players here, they need to let it go and go on with the business of the country.

(Announcements)

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 1, 1999

78TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

SHOW: 60 MINUTES (10:35 PM ET)

January 26, 1992, Sunday

TYPE: Interview

LENGTH: 1911 words

HEADLINE: GOVERNOR AND MRS. BILL CLINTON DISCUSS ADULTERY ACCUSATIONS

ANCHORS: Steve Kroft

BODY:

Steve Kroft, host:

It's been quite a week for Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton. On Monday his picture was on the cover of Time magazine, anointed by the press as the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination. Six days later, he's trying to salvage his campaign. His problem: Long rumored allegations of marital infidelity finally surfaced in a supermarket tabloid. And last week they were picked up and reprinted, unsubstantiated, by the mainstream press. Since then, for better or for worse, Governor Clinton's private life has become the overriding issue in the Democratic presidential campaign. Earlier today, Governor Clinton and his wife, Hillary, sat down with me to try to put the issue to rest. Keep in mind, as we said earlier, all of the allegations are unsubstantiated, all have been denied by everyone involved, except for the case of Jennifer Flowers. A former television reporter and cabaret singer, Jennifer Flowers, in a tabloid interview for which she was paid, says she carried on a long-term affair with Governor Clinton from the late 1970s to the end of 1989.

Who is Jennifer Flowers? You know her.

Governor Bill Clinton: Oh, yes.

Kroft: How do you know her? How would you describe your relationship?

B. Clinton: Very limited, but until this, you know, friendly, but limited. I have--I met her in the late '70s when I was attorney general. She was one of a number of young people who were working for the television stations around Little Rock. And people in politics and the people in the media knew each other then, just as they do now. She left our state, and for years I didn't really hear from her or know what she was doing. Then she came back--I don't know--some time a few years ago and went to work again in the state. So that's how--that's who she is.

Kroft: Was she a friend, an acquaintance? Did your wife know her?

B. Clinton: Yes.

Hillary Clinton: Oh, sure.

B. Clinton: She was an acquaintance. I would say a friendly acquaintance.

H. Clinton: Mm-hmm.

B. Clinton: When this story--this rumor story got started in the middle of 1980 and she was contacted and told about it, she was so upset, and she called back, she said, 'How could I be listed on this. I haven't seen you for more than 10 minutes in 10 years.' She would call from time to time when she was upset or thought she was really in--being hurt by the rumors. And I would call her back--either she would call the office or I would call her back there at the office or I would call her back at the house, and Hillary knew when I was calling her back. I think once I called her when we were together. And so there's nothing out of the ordinary there.

Kroft: She's alleging and has described in some detail in the supermarket tabloid what she calls a 12-year affair with you.

B. Clinton: It--that allegation is false.

H. Clinton: When this woman first got caught up in these charges, I felt as I felt about all of these women, that, you know, they've just been minding their own business, and they got hit by a meteor. I mean, it was no fault of their own. We reached out to them. I met with two of them to reassure them. They were friends of ours. I felt terrible about what was happening to them. You know, Bill talked to this woman every time she called distraught, saying her life was going to be ruined. And, you know, he'd get off the phone and tell me that she said sort of whacky things which we thought were attributable to the fact that she was terrified.

B. Clinton: It was only when money came out, wh--when the tabloid went down there offering people money to say that they had been involved with me that she changed her story. There is a recession on. Times are tough, and--and I think you can expect more and more of these stories as long as they're down there handing out money.

Kroft: I'm assuming from your answer that you're categorically denying that you ever had an affair with Jennifer Flowers.

B. Clinton: I've said that before and so has she.

Kroft: You've said that your marriage has had problems, that you've had difficulties. What do you mean by that? What does that mean? Is that some kind of--help us break the code. I mean, does that mean...

B. Clinton: I don't me...

Kroft: ...you were separated? Does that mean that you had communication

problems? Does that mean you contemplated divorce? Does it mean adultery?

B. Clinton: I think the American people, at least people that have been married for a long time, know what it means and know the whole range of things that it can mean.

Kroft: You've been saying all week that you've got to put this issue behind you. Are you prepared tonight to say that you've never had an extramarital affair?

B. Clinton: I'm not prepared tonight to say that any married couple should ever discuss that with anyone but themselves. I'm not prepared to say that about anybody. I think that the issue...

Kroft: Governor, that's what--excuse me. That's what you've been saying, essentially, for the last...

B. Clinton: But that's what I believe.

Kroft: ...couple of months.

B. Clinton: Look, Steve, you go back and listen to what I've said. You know, I have acknowledged wrongdoing, I have acknowledge causing pain in my marriage. I have said things to you tonight and to the American people from the beginning that no American politician ever has. I think most Americans who are watching this tonight, they'll know what we're saying, they'll get it, and they'll feel that we have been more candid. And I think what the press has to decide is: Are we going to engage in a game of gotcha? You know, I can remember a time--and it was sad--when a divorced person couldn't run for president. And that time, thank goodness, has passed. Nobody's prejudice against anybody because they're divorced. Are we going to take the reverse position now--that if people have problems in their marriage or things in their past which they don't want to discuss, which are painful to them, that they can't run?

Kroft: You're trying to put this issue behind you. And the problem with the answer is it's not a denial. And people are sitting out there--voters--and they're saying, 'Look, it's really pretty simple. If he has never had an extramarital affair, why doesn't he just say so?'

B. Clinton: That may be what they're saying. You know what I think they're saying? I think they're saying, 'Here's a guy who's leveling with us.' You--you may think that--that we should say more, and you can keep asking the questions. But I'm telling you I think that we've to--I'll come back to what I said. I have told the American people more than any other candidate for president. The re--the result of that has been everybody going to my state and spending more time trying to play gotcha.

H. Clinton: There isn't a person watching this who would feel comfortable sitting on this couch detailing everything that ever went on in their life or their marriage. And I think it's real dangerous in this country if we don't have some zone of privacy for everybody. I mean, I think that is absolutely critical.

Kroft: I--I--I couldn't agree with you more, and I think--and I agree with

you that everyone wants to put this behind you. And the reason it hasn't gone away is is that your answer is not a denial, is it?

B. Clinton: But interesting--let's assume...

Kroft: It's not a denial.

B. Clinton: Of course, it's not. And let's take it from your point of view. If--that won't make it go away. You know, you can cut this round or cut this flat. I mean, if you deny, then you have a whole other hoard of people going down there offering more money trying to prove that you lied. And if you say yes, you have just what I've already said by being open and telling you that we've had problems. You have, oh, good, now we can play gotcha and find out who it is. Now no matter what I say to pretend that the press will then let this die, we're kidding ourselves. I mean, you know, this has become a virtual cottage industry. The only way to put it behind us, I think, is for all of us to agree that this guy has told us about all we need to know. Anybody's who's listening gets the drift of it. And let's go on and get back to the real problems of this country. The problems are about what's going to happen to families in New Hampshire and the rest of this country in the future, not what happened to mine in the past.

Kroft: I don't like some of these questions any better than you do, but the question of marital infidelity is an issue with a sizable portion of the electorate. According to the latest CBS News poll, which was just taken over the weekend, 14 percent of the registered voters in America say they wouldn't vote for a candidate who's had an affair.

B. Clinton: I know it's an issue. And--and--but what does that mean? That means 86 percent of the American people either don't think it's relevant to presidential performance or look at whether a person looking at all the facts is the best person to serve.

H. Clinton: We've gone further than anybody we know of, and that's all we're going to say. And people can ask us 100 different ways in--from 100 different directions, and we're just going to leave the ultimate decision up to the American people.

Kroft: I think most Americans would agree that it's very admirable that you had--have stayed together, that you've worked your problems out, that you seem to have reached some sort of an understanding and an arrangement.

B. Clinton: Wait a minute, wait a minute.

Kroft: But...

B. Clinton: Wait a minute. You're looking at two people who love each other. This is not an arrangement or an understanding. This is a marriage. That's a very different thing.

H. Clinton: You know, I'm not sitting here some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette. I'm sitting here because I love him and I respect him and I honor what he's been through and what we've been through together. And, you know, if that's not enough for people, then, heck, don't vote for him.

Kroft: A good friend of yours, one of your campaign advisers, told us the other day, 'Bill Clinton has got to level with the American people tonight, otherwise, his candidacy is dead.' You feel like you've leveled with the American people?

B. Clinton: I have absolutely leveled with the American people.

H. Clinton: We are going to do the best we can to level with people and then we're going to let them make up their minds, because I think if the American people get a chance and if they're trusted to exercise their vote right because people talk to them about real issues, this country will be OK. That's what we're betting on, and we're just going to roll the dice and see what happens.

Kroft: You called it a gamble. You came here tonight to try and put it behind you. You're going to get on the plane when you walk out of this room and go back to New Hampshire. Do you think you've succeeded?

B. Clinton: That's up to the American people and, to some extent, up to the press. This will test the character of the press. It is not only my character that has been tested.

Kroft: I'm Steve Kroft. We'll be back next Sunday at our regular time with a complete edition of "60 Minutes", including Ed Bradley with Anita Hill, her first interview since the Clarence Thomas hearings. Now "48 Hours."

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 28, 1998

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 26, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM EVENT

The Roosevelt Room

10:37 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. First, let me thank all of you who are here. Many of us have been working together now for 20 years on a lot of these issues and this is a very happy day for us.

I thank the First Lady for all she has done on this issue, for as long as I have known her. I thank the Vice President and Mrs. Gore, for their Family Conference and the light it has shed on the announcement we're here to emphasize today. Thank you, Secretary Riley, for the community learning centers and I'm very proud of what we've done there.

Thank you, Bill White -- I'll talk more about your contribution in a moment, but it is truly remarkable. And I thank Rand and Debra Bass for giving us a living, breathing example of the best of America -- parents who are working hard to do their jobs, but also determined to do their most important job very well with their children. I thank Senator Feinstein, Senator Dodd and Senator Boxer for being here.

Tomorrow, in the State of the Union address, I will spell out what we seek to do on behalf of our children to prepare them for the 21st century. But I want to talk a little bit about education today and about this announcement in that context.

Education must be our nation's highest priority. Last year in the State of the Union address I set out a 10-point plan to move us forward and urged the American people to make sure that politics stops at the schoolhouse door. Well, we made a lot of progress on that 10-point plan: a remarkable -- a remarkable -- array of initiatives to open the doors of college to every American who's willing to work for it; strong progress toward high national standards in the basics, the America Reads challenge, to teach every 8-year-old to read; continued progress in the Vice President's program to hook up all of our classrooms and libraries to the Internet by the year 2000.

This has been the most important year in a generation for education reform. Tomorrow I'll set out the next steps on our continuing road. First I will propose the first ever national effort to reduce class size in the early grades. (Applause.)

Hillary and I worked very hard 15 years ago now to have very strict class sizes at home in the early grades, and it was quite controversial and I think enormously beneficial when we did it. Our balanced budget will help to hire 100,000 teachers who must pass state competency tests, but who will be able to reduce class size in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades to an average of 18 nationwide. (Applause.)

Second, since there are more students and there will be

more teachers, there must be more classrooms. So I will propose a school construction tax cut to help communities modernize and build new schools. Third, I will promote a national effort to help schools that follow the lead of the Chicago system in ending social promotion, but helping students with summer school and other programs to give them the tools they need to get ahead.

All these steps will help our children get the future they deserve. And that's why what we're announcing here is so important as well.

Every child needs someplace to go after school. With after-school programs we can not only keep our kids healthy and happy and safe, we can help to teach them to say no to drugs, alcohol and crime; yes to reading, sports and computers. My balanced budget plan includes a national initiative to spark private sector and local community efforts to provide after-school care, as the Secretary of Education said, to half a million more children.

Now, let me say, in addition to all the positive benefits, I think it's important to point out that the hours between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at night are the most vulnerable hours for young people to get in trouble, for juvenile crime. There is this sort of assumption that everybody that gets in trouble when they're young has just already been abandoned. That's not true. Most of the kids that get in trouble get in trouble after school closes and before their parents get home from work. So in the adolescent years and the later years this is profoundly important to try to give kids something to say yes to and something positive to do.

But we can't do it alone. As I said, our plan involves a public-private partnership. So it has fallen to me to announce that our distinguished guest from the Mott Foundation of Flint, Michigan, has pledged up to \$55 million to help ensure that after-school programs, supported by federal funds, are of the highest quality. That is an astonishing gift. Thank you, Bill White. Thank you. (Applause.)

We are determined to help Americans succeed in the workplace, to raise well-educated, healthy kids, and to help Americans succeed at the toughest job of all, that of being a parent. And the Mott Foundation has gone a long way toward helping us. I thank them.

Now, I have to go back to work on my State of the Union speech. And I worked on it until pretty late last night. But I want to say one thing to the American people. I want you to listen to me. I'm going to say this again. I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky. I never told anybody to lie, not a single time -- never. These allegations are false. And I need to go back to work for the American people.

Thank you.

END

10:44 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 5, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MEDICARE COMMISSION MEETING

The Cabinet Room

12:25 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good day, everyone. I am glad to be joined here by members of the Medicare Commission. In a few moments we will talk for the very first time about what we have to do as Americans to preserve Medicare, a system that has served our country so well for 33 years now. It's more than a program; it is a way we honor our duty to our parents and build a future for our children. It has been one of the great achievements of American society in the 20th century.

We've already done a lot in the last few years to strengthen Medicare: The balanced budget will extend the Medicare trust fund for at least a decade; \$20 billion has been saved by reducing fraud abuse and mismanagement in the system; we're giving people on Medicare a wider range of health plan choices and preventive services, including mammograms and diabetes management.

When Medicare was first passed into law, President Johnson said -- and I quote -- "It proved that the vitality of our democracy can shape the oldest of our values to the needs and obligations of changing times." I'm confident that the Medicare Commission will help us to build a new consensus to meet the challenges of a new era, strengthening Medicare for the 21st century and giving our people the security they need to thrive.

I'd like to thank Senator Breaux for agreeing to chair the Commission. He has a longstanding record both in his work on the Aging Commission and the Finance Committee -- the Aging Committee and the Finance Committee -- of working to develop consensus on important issues affecting our senior citizens.

I'd also like to thank Congressman Thomas for his leadership on this issue and on the Commission. He is well-known for his expertise on the Medicare program. He shepherded the Medicare provisions in the Balanced Budget Act through, and helped to assure that we could achieve bipartisan agreement on these reforms. And for that I am very, very grateful.

So I'd like now to give the Vice President and Senator Breaux and Congressman Thomas a chance to say a few words.

* * * * *

Q Mr. President, are you upset by the leaking of your Jones deposition -- or did your people actually do the leaking?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me say, the court has made it absolutely clear that it is illegal to leak or to discuss it. And I

think, Mr. Donaldson, I should follow the law. And so I don't have anything else to say. I know you've got to ask the question, it's your job. But I'm going to just do my job. That's what I'm doing here. And I'm going to follow the law. That's what I wish everyone else would do.

Q Sir, you never answered the important questions that I think a lot of people out there would like to hear you on.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I believe I have given all the answers that matter. And I don't have anything else to say at this time. I'm just going to go back and do my job.

Q -- do you stand by the facts in the deposition as reported by the newspaper?

SENATOR ROCKEFELLER: Do you care what Medicare is?

Q We all care, sir.

Mr. President, it says in the deposition as reported that you asked Betty Currie to see if she could help Monica Lewinsky get a job.

THE PRESIDENT: For one thing, I haven't read the article. For another thing, I don't know whether the article is accurate or not. Finally, whether it is or not, it is against the law. The judge has ordered us neither to release such materials or to discuss them. Somebody in this case ought to follow the law. I intend to be that person, so that I can go back to work about these things. I have nothing else to say.

Q Things have gotten very personal between you and Kenneth Starr, Mr. President. It seems to have gotten very personal between you and Kenneth Starr, Mr. President. I'm asking a question not about the deposition.

THE PRESIDENT: Sam never quits. He never quits.

Q Do you think Kenneth Starr is out to get you, Mr. President? It seems to have gotten very personal.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

12:35 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 3, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON THE ECONOMY

The Rose Garden

10:08 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Before I read my statement, I'd like to make a brief comment on a momentous event which occurred during my trip to Africa, back here. The Vice President turned 50, and I hope all of you noticed the increased gravity and maturity of his aura. (Laughter.) I personally am greatly relieved. Not long before he turned 50, as I told him when I called him, an elderly lady came up to me and she said, I think you and that young man are doing such a good job. (Laughter.) And it's nice to have a middle-aged team now at the White House.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: She was very elderly. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say, Hillary and I are delighted to be back from what was a wonderful trip to Africa. We are working hard to strengthen the bonds of the African continent that I am convinced is in the midst of a renaissance, where political and economic liberty is on the rise.

I only wish every American could have been with me every step of the way to see, first, Africa, not only its problems, which are profound, but the energy and intelligence and determination of the people. I also wish every American could have had yet one more opportunity to see how a very important part of the world see America -- still as a beacon of equality and freedom and hope for opportunity.

Today we learned that the unemployment rate in the first quarter of this year, averaging 4.7 percent, is the lowest it's been since 1970, 28 years. While there will be ups and downs, our economy continues to be one of the strongest in history. Over the past year we've seen the strongest wage growth in 20 years; inflation is still low; homeownership now at a record level. As we approach the longest peace-time expansion in our history, this is a springtime of hope and opportunity for the American people.

Our economy is the product of the hard work, the creativity, the innovation of our citizens, and the ingenuity and drive of our businesses. But also it is the fruit, as the Vice President said, of the comprehensive economic strategy we have pursued since 1993, a strategy for the new economy.

The coming months will now test our nation. It will determine whether we will maintain our discipline and pursue our priorities to strengthen our country for the new century. We can make this a time of action as well as a time of abundance, to secure our prosperity well into the future, to widen the circle of opportunity so that all Americans have a chance to reap the rewards of economic growth.

First, we should go and balance the budget this year and do it in

a way that continues our investment in our people and their future. With projected budget surpluses of \$1 trillion over the next decade, I am pleased that members of Congress of both parties have joined my call to reserve every penny of the surplus until we save Social Security first. This is very significant. I compliment the leadership of both parties. It will strengthen our nation.

At the same time, as we live within a balanced budget, we must invest to create prosperity for the future. Many times I have said that in the new economy, education is the leading economic indicator. We will continue to lead the world only if our children receive the world's best education. In that context, I am very concerned that the budget plan now working its way through the Senate will squeeze out critical investments in education and children.

I believe America must address the challenges before us. Class size for our children -- we must hire 100,000 new teachers so that we can reduce those class sizes. We must spur school modernization to make our classes smaller and our schools safer. We must invest in path-breaking scientific research that will lengthen our lives and promote prosperity into the 21st century. And we must make those investments which will make credible our call for higher standards and higher performance in our schools. The budget now being drafted by Congress simply does not meet these urgent national priorities.

I'm also determined that highway spending, though it is quite important, and though our budget provides for a very impressive increase in investment in highways and mass transit, must be -- such spending must be within the balanced budget, and should not crowd out critical investments in education, child care, health care, or threaten our budget discipline.

In the coming months I look forward to working with Congress in cooperation with lawmakers of both parties so that America stays on the path of both fiscal discipline and targeted investment -- a balanced budget that is in balance with our values and our long-term interest in the future. That is what has brought us this far since 1993. We should not depart from that strategy now.

Finally, I am determined to seize this historic opportunity to pass bipartisan legislation to protect our children from the dangers of tobacco. This Congress can be the Congress that saves millions of children's lives. I want to say that we seem to be making some progress on that, with the vote in the Senate committee, but there is an enormous amount of work still to be done. And I hope during this working recess the lawmakers of both houses and both parties will be talking to the folks back home about the tobacco legislation and will come back here at the end of this month with a renewed determination to actually pass legislation that will get the job done.

Our economy is the strongest in a generation, our social fabric is on the mend, our leadership around the world as we saw on the trip to Africa, remains unrivalled. But our history and our heritage tells us that we can do better and that our success depends upon our constant effort to do better. The American people want us to use this sunlit moment not to sit back and enjoy, but to act. We were hired by the American people to act. If we do so, in the 21st century the American dream will be more powerful than ever.

Thank you.

Q Do you have any comments on reports that Kenneth Starr is being urged to indict Monica Lewinsky and name you as a co-conspirator?

Q On the tobacco deal, sir, how concerned are you that one or more

of the tobacco companies might walk away from this proposed settlement? And do you believe that you need their cooperation both so that there is money for your budget priorities and so that you can win restrictions on cigarette advertising?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the latter is of greater concern. That is, their agreement, or lack of it, would influence the way Congress would have to raise the money, through raising the price of cigarettes to deter more consumption and to raise the funds for the health care costs of tobacco and the health research and the other things that I believe should be funded out of this settlement. But on the advertising, of course, that could be a concern because of the governing legal precedents.

But I still believe that the incentives are there for the tobacco companies to do this. With each new revelation of the strategies which have been vigorously pursued to market cigarettes to children, I think they have an enormous interest to reverse the record of the past to try to put this unforgivable chapter behind them and to start off on a new path. So I still believe that in the end we will achieve an agreement which will convince them, or which they will be convinced will be in their interest.

The advertising issue is the more important one from a legal point of view, but I think we'll get there because they have now -- with this evidence continuing to mount up about the deliberate strategy which was followed, they have a big interest in pursuing it.

On the other matter, you know, I'm not going to comment on that. I'm going to try to do what the Supreme Court said I should do, which is not to be in any way deterred by this, and I'm going on with my business; others will comment on that.

Q Mr. President, Moody's debt rating service earlier today issued a warning about Japan's sovereign debt. The United States has repeatedly urged Japan, with little apparent success, to try to jump start its domestic economy. Do you see any signs that the Japanese government is now ready to take actions that would help bring it into recovery?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the Prime Minister keeps moving forward in ways that the market seems to believe are insufficient. And we have obviously urged aggressive action, because we want the Japanese economy to grow. We think the Japanese economy is the key to stability and growth in Asia, and we have always wanted a strong, healthy Japanese partner.

Japan is a great democracy, they've been a great partner for us, they've been a great engine of economic growth for many years until the last few years. There may be some momentary disruption because now you have some business leaders speaking out in Japan, but it appears to us on the outside of this that there is an ongoing struggle between what is now the articulated view not only of the United States and others, but of the business community in Japan about the direction that country should take and the entrenched resistance to that in the permanent government bureaucracy that followed a different strategy with great success in previous years. And I think we need to be both respectful, but firm, in urging the Japanese to take a bold course.

Prime Minister Hashimoto is an able man, and he understands the economy, and I believe he wants to take such a course. What has to be done is that the people within the permanent government there, which have always enjoyed great power, have to realize that the strategies that worked in the past are not appropriate to the present. They have to make a break now in some ways that's not so different from the break

that we made in 1993. You simply can't stay with a strategy that is clearly not appropriate to the times and expect it to get the results that are needed for the country.

But Japan is a very great country full of brilliant people who have a great understanding of economics. And as I said, I think the Prime Minister understands this and is willing to take risks and wants to do it. And he's got this raging battle going on and I have to hope that the forces of the future will prevail.

Thank you.

END

10:20 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 11, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT RELIGIOUS LEADERS BREAKFAST

The East Room

9:40 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House and to this day to which Hillary and the Vice President and I look forward so much every year.

This is always an important day for our country, for the reasons that the Vice President said. It is an unusual and, I think, unusually important day today. I may not be quite as easy with my words today as I have been in years past, and I was up rather late last night thinking about and praying about what I ought to say today. And rather unusual for me, I actually tried to write it down. So if you will forgive me, I will do my best to say what it is I want to say to you -- and I may have to take my glasses out to read my own writing.

First, I want to say to all of you that, as you might imagine, I have been on quite a journey these last few weeks to get to the end of this, to the rock bottom truth of where I am and where we all are. I agree with those who have said that in my first statement after I testified I was not contrite enough. I don't think there is a fancy way to say that I have sinned.

It is important to me that everybody who has been hurt know that the sorrow I feel is genuine: first and most important, my family; also my friends, my staff, my Cabinet, Monica Lewinsky and her family, and the American people. I have asked all for their forgiveness.

But I believe that to be forgiven, more than sorrow is required -- at least two more things. First, genuine repentance -- a determination to change and to repair breaches of my own making. I have repented. Second, what my bible calls a "broken spirit"; an understanding that I must have God's help to be the person that I want to be; a willingness to give the very forgiveness I seek; a renunciation of the pride and the anger which cloud judgment, lead people to excuse and compare and to blame and complain.

Now, what does all this mean for me and for us? First, I will instruct my lawyers to mount a vigorous defense, using all available appropriate arguments. But legal language must not obscure the fact that I have done wrong. Second, I will continue on the path of repentance, seeking pastoral support and that of other caring people so that they can hold me accountable for my own commitment.

Third, I will intensify my efforts to lead our country and the world toward peace and freedom, prosperity and harmony, in the hope that with a broken spirit and a still strong heart I can be used for greater good, for we have many blessings and many challenges and so much work to do.

In this, I ask for your prayers and for your help in healing our nation. And though I cannot move beyond or forget this --

indeed, I must always keep it as a caution light in my life -- it is very important that our nation move forward.

I am very grateful for the many, many people -- clergy and ordinary citizens alike -- who have written me with wise counsel. I am profoundly grateful for the support of so many Americans who somehow through it all seem to still know that I care about them a great deal, that I care about their problems and their dreams. I am grateful for those who have stood by me and who say that in this case and many others, the bounds of privacy have been excessively and unwisely invaded. That may be. Nevertheless, in this case, it may be a blessing, because I still sinned. And if my repentance is genuine and sustained, and if I can maintain both a broken spirit and a strong heart, then good can come of this for our country as well as for me and my family. (Applause.)

The children of this country can learn in a profound way that integrity is important and selfishness is wrong, but God can change us and make us strong at the broken places. I want to embody those lessons for the children of this country -- for that little boy in Florida who came up to me and said that he wanted to grow up and be President and to be just like me. I want the parents of all the children in America to be able to say that to their children.

A couple of days ago when I was in Florida a Jewish friend of mine gave me this liturgy book called, "Gates of Repentance." And there was this incredible passage from the Yom Kippur liturgy. I would like to read it to you: "Now is the time for turning. The leaves are beginning to turn from green to red to orange. The birds are beginning to turn and are heading once more toward the south. The animals are beginning to turn to storing their food for the winter. For leaves, birds and animals, turning comes instinctively. But for us, turning does not come so easily. It takes an act of will for us to make a turn. It means breaking old habits. It means admitting that we have been wrong, and this is never easy. It means losing face. It means starting all over again. And this is always painful. It means saying I am sorry. It means recognizing that we have the ability to change. These things are terribly hard to do.

But unless we turn, we will be trapped forever in yesterday's ways. Lord help us to turn, from callousness to sensitivity, from hostility to love, from pettiness to purpose, from envy to contentment, from carelessness to discipline, from fear to faith. Turn us around, O Lord, and bring us back toward you. Revive our lives as at the beginning, and turn us toward each other, Lord, for in isolation there is no life."

I thank my friend for that. I thank you for being here. I ask you to share my prayer that God will search me and know my heart, try me and know my anxious thoughts, see if there is any hurtfulness in me, and lead me toward the life everlasting. I ask that God give me a clean heart, let me walk by faith and not sight.

I ask once again to be able to love my neighbor -- all my neighbors -- as my self, to be an instrument of God's peace; to let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart and, in the end, the work of my hands, be pleasing. This is what I wanted to say to you today.

Thank you. God bless you. (Applause.)

END

9:52 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 8, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT BUDGET MEETING

The Cabinet Room

5:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: We are about to start a meeting with the economic and budget team about the unfinished work in the budget that has to be done in the next few days. But before we start I'd like to make just a very brief comment on today's vote.

First of all, I hope that we can now move forward with this process in a way that is fair, that is constitutional and that is timely -- the American people have been through a lot on this and I think that everyone deserves that. Beyond that, I have nothing to say. It is not in my hands, it is in the hands of Congress and the people of this country -- ultimately, in the hands of God, there is nothing I can do.

But there are things I can do something about. And the most important thing I can do now is to work in the next few days to work to cross party lines to do the work that we have to do here. We have got to pass a budget that protects the surplus and still to save Social Security; that keeps the American economy going amidst all this economic turmoil in the world; that protects, instead of damages, the environment; and that gives the kind of priority to our elementary and secondary education that it so clearly needs.

Those are my priorities. I think those are the priorities of the American people. It will require us to put progress ahead of partisanship, but it clearly will strengthen our country and that's what we're going to work on and I hope we can do it.

Q Sir, you could speed the pace of this up if you were to volunteer to testify, decide whether or not now you would challenge Monica Lewinsky's account of your relationship. Have you made any decisions on that front?

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say again, on that I will do what I can to help to ensure this is constitutional, fair and timely. Ultimately, it is in the hands of the Congress. I don't think it's appropriate to comment further than that.

Q Mr. President, what's your reaction to the Republican demands on the IMF funding bill, and how closely are you watching the decline of the dollar against the yen?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we're watching that very closely. Of course, the strengthening of the yen could be a good thing. The yen got too weak and it led, for example, to breathtaking increases in imports of Japanese steel, which hurt a lot of our people, our industry and our workers who were clearly competitive internationally.

And if the Japanese yen were to come back because people believed Japan was serious about economic reform, then it would be a good thing. It would be a balancing of forces in the world economy. It would

strengthen the American economy by strengthening our own domestic manufacturing sector and making our exports more competitive. It would make it possible for Japan to buy other country's exports in Asia.

If it's a temporary phenomenon that evidences some sort of instability, then that's something we just have to try to sort out. But I don't think we can know for sure yet. The clear answer over the long run is for America to fund our responsibilities to the IMF, for Japan to get serious about its economic reform, for the Europeans to keep their markets open and continue growth so that all of us can get more money back into the global economic system right now and then deal with the long term problem. That's what I hope. I think it's very important not to be diverted by day to day developments here and think about what the larger problem is.

Q Mr. President, have you talked to other world leaders today? And how are you feeling personally about the vote?

THE PRESIDENT: Today I spoke with President Chirac of France. And I am meeting tomorrow with the man who will be the next German Chancellor, Mr. Schroeder. And we talked about Kosovo. And I have been working, as you know, all week long with people from all over the world on the international financial crisis.

Personally, I am fine. I have surrendered this. This is beyond my control. I have to work on what I can do. What I can do is to do my job for the American people. I trust the American people -- they almost always get it right and have for 220 years. And I'm working in a way that I hope will restore their trust in me by working for the things that our country needs. These things we're going to discuss at this budget meeting, that's what I can have some impact on and that's what I intend to do.

END

5:05 P.M. EDT