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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Atlanta, Georgia)

For Immediate Release

August 9, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT,
PRESIDENT CARTER AND MRS. CARTER
AT THE MEDAL OF FREEDOM PRESENTATION

The Carter Center
Atlanta, Georgia

7:05 P.M. EDT

PRESIDENT CLINTON: President and Mrs. Carter, members of the Carter family, including grandchild number 10, Hugo, who's right outside -- (laughter) -- members of the Cabinet who are here, friends of the Carters, Mr. Mayor. Let me say to all of you what a great pleasure it is for me to be here today. I flew down on Air Force One today with a number of former Carter administration members who many of them are in our administration, many others are mutual friends, and we relived old stories.

I remember in 1974, Governor Jimmy Carter had a role in the Democratic Party and he was trying to help us all win elections. And I was running for Congress and he sent Jody Powell to Northwest Arkansas to help me. I should have known something was up. (Laughter.) Thank goodness he failed and I lost that election. (Laughter.)

In 1975, Jimmy Carter came to Arkansas to give a speech, met with me and my wife and others and we signed on. In 1976, my home state was the only state besides Georgia where President Carter got more than 65 percent of the vote. So it's a great personal honor for me to be here today.

Over the past several years, the President and Mrs. Carter have received many awards, all of them well-deserved. Rosalynn has received more than a dozen just from children's organizations alone. President Carter has been knighted in Mali, made an honorary tribal chief in Nigeria and Ghana. There are at least three families in Africa he's met who have named their newborn child Jimmy Carter. (Laughter.)

Now these are hard acts to follow. (Laughter.) But today, it is my privilege, on behalf of a grateful nation, to confer America's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, on Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.

Twenty-two years ago, when presenting this same award posthumously to Dr. Martin Luther King, President Carter said, "there are many Americans who do great things, who make us proud of them and their achievements, and who inspire us to do better ourselves. But there are some among those noble achievers who are exemplary in every way, who reach a higher plateau of achievement."

It is in that spirit that we look back on two extraordinary lives today. In the past, this award has been presented to people who have helped America promote freedom -- by fighting for human rights, or

righting social wrongs, or empowering others to achieve, or extending peace around the world. But rarely do we honor two people who have devoted themselves so effectively to advancing freedom in all those ways. Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter have done more good things for more people in more places than any other couple on the face of the earth. (Applause.)

To be sure, there have been other Presidents who have continued to contribute to the public good once they left office: Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia; John Quincy Adams returned to Congress for eight terms and fought slavery; William Howard Taft became Chief Justice.

But the work President Carter has done through this extraordinary Carter Center to improve our nation and our world is truly unparalleled in our nation's history. We've all gotten used to seeing pictures of President Carter building homes for people through Habitat for Humanity. But the full story lies in pictures we don't see, of the 115 countries he's visited since leaving office, to end hunger and disease and to spread the cause of peace; by the more than 20 elections he's helped to monitor, where democracy is taking root, thanks in part to his efforts; of the millions in Africa who are living better lives thanks to his work to eradicate diseases like Guinea worm and river blindness; of the dozens of political prisoners who have been released, thanks in part to letters he has written away from the public spotlight.

I was proud to have his support when we worked together to bring democracy back to Haiti and to preserve stability on the Korean Peninsula. I am grateful for the many detailed, incisive reports he has sent to me from his trip to troubled nations all across the globe, always urging understanding of their problems and their points of view, always outlining practical steps to progress.

To call Jimmy Carter the greatest former President in history, as many have, however, does not do justice either to him or to his work. For, in a real sense, this Carter Center is not a new beginning, but a continuation of the Carter presidency.

The work President Carter did in those four years not only broke important new ground, it is still playing a large role in shaping the world we live in today. One of the proudest moments of my life was the day in 1993 when Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat shook hands on the South Lawn of the White House. That day was made possible by the courage of the people of the Middle East and their leaders, but also by another handshake 20 years before, and the persistence of President Carter as he brokered the Camp David Accords. I know it is a great source of pride for him that, 21 years later, not a word of that agreement has been violated. (Applause.)

If you talk to any elected leader in Latin America today, they will tell you that the stand President Carter took for democracy and human rights put America on the right side of history in our hemisphere. He was the first President to put America's commitment to human rights squarely at the heart of our foreign policy. Today, more than half the world's people live in freedom, not least because he had the faith to lend America support, to brave dissidents like Sakharov, Havel and Mandela. And there were thousands of less well-known political prisoners languishing in jails in the 1970s who were sustained by a smuggled news clipping of President Carter championing their cause. His role in saving the life of the President of South Korea, President Kim, is well known.

His resolve on SALT II, even though it was never ratified, helped to constrain the arms race for a full decade and laid the

① From building homes for people to monitoring elections

groundwork for the dramatic reductions in nuclear weaponry we see today. By normalizing relations with China, he began a dialogue which holds the promise of avoiding a new era of conflict and containment and, instead, building a future of cooperation with the world's most populous nation.

Here at home, his work on deregulation helped free up competitive forces that continue to strengthen our economy today. His work on conservation, particularly the Alaska Lands Act, accelerated a process that has created the cleanest air and water in a generation. His advocacy of energy conservation and clean energy will loom even larger in the years ahead as our nation and our world finally come to grips with the challenge of climate change. And by hiring and appointing more women and more minorities than any other administration to that point, he set a shining example of the one America we all long to live in. (Applause.)

During the Carter years, Rosalynn Carter also brought vision, compassion, tireless energy and commitment to the causes she advanced. Just as Eleanor Roosevelt will be remembered for her work on human rights, Rosalynn Carter will always be remembered as a pioneer on mental health and a champion of our children.

For more than 30 years she has made it her mission to erase the stigma surrounding mental health. As First Lady of Georgia, she used to travel dusty back roads to meet with people and volunteered her time at a state hospital. She took what she learned to the White House, where she chaired the President's Commission on Mental Health with style and grace. Afterwards, she initiated the Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy and has worked to promote action on mental health worldwide.

We have made some progress in the last few years in extending health coverage and health insurance policies to mental health conditions, thanks in large measure to Tipper Gore's efforts; and in broadening public understanding and support for further action. It would not have happened if Rosalynn Carter hadn't done what she did first. (Applause.) Thanks to her work, I believe we will see the day not too long away when mental illness is treated just like any other illness, and covered just like any other illnesses.

We also owe her our gratitude for her efforts to ensure that all our children are immunized. Two decades ago, she helped America see that while many vaccines were being discovered, too few children were being vaccinated. She traveled across our country and became so recognized as a leader on immunization that people used to joke that every time she showed up, the kids would start to cry because they knew somebody was going to get a shot. (Laughter.)

Her work inspired President Carter to launch a nationwide campaign to immunize all children by the time they enter school -- an effort we have built on. I can tell you that in the last two years, we can say for the first time in history, 90 percent of America's children have been immunized against serious childhood diseases. That would not have happened if Rosalynn Carter hadn't started this crusade more than two decades ago. (Applause.) We have seen this kind of commitment in all of her endeavors, from her work to organize relief for Cambodian refugees to her constant efforts to ensure that women get equal pay for equal work.

The extraordinary partnership between these two remarkable Americans has remained strong for more than 50 years now. To see it merely as a political journey tells only part of the story. At its heart, those of us who admire them see their journey as one of love and faith. In many ways, this Center has been their ministry.

In his book, "Living Faith," President Carter recalls a sermon that says, when we die, the marker on our grave has two dates: the day we're born and the day we die. And a little dash in between, representing our whole life on Earth, the little dash. To God, the tiny dash is everything.

What a dash they have already made. (Applause.)

By doing justice, by loving mercy, by walking humbly with their God, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter are still living their faith, still making the most of the dash in between the numbers.]

It will be hard for any future historian to chronicle all the good work they have done. It will be quite impossible for anyone to chronicle all the good works they have inspired in the hearts and lives of others throughout the world. Today, we do all we can; a grateful nation says thank you.

Colonel, read the citation.

(The citation is read.) (Applause.)

PRESIDENT CARTER: Mr. President, I'm almost speechless with emotion for what you had to say and the generous way you said it. It's a real honor to have you here again, and to welcome you to the Carter Center, and to receive this award, really, on behalf of all the wonderful people who have worked with us for the last 22 years in the White House and more recently at the Carter Center.

Many of them are assembled here this afternoon for this ceremony, and I'd like to ask all of those with your spouses who have served with us to please rise and let President Clinton see who you are. (Applause.)

As President Clinton mentioned, Rosalynn and I have visited, now, more than 115 nations in the world. We've had a chance to learn about the people that we've visited. And we've seen in their eyes quite often despair, and hopelessness and fear, and a lack of self-respect -- quite often even fearful of their own governments.

We have learned in that time the intimate relationship that should exist between governments throughout the world and civilian organizations, non-governmental organizations like the Carter Center -- and, Mr. President, like the one that in a few months you'll be establishing for yourself and your wife. It's very important for us to realize that the intimate relationship between officials who serve people and the people's own organizations should be strong, and constant.

This afternoon, not only do we recognize the significance of this wonderful award, but it's especially meaningful to me to receive it from a leader who has pursued many of the same goals that were mentioned in the generous citation. Mr. President, you have demonstrated global leadership, often under the most difficult of circumstances, in your commitment to protect human rights, to bring peace to people who live in Bosnia and Kosovo, and in the Middle East -- and countries in Africa, which you and your wife have visited. And also to take the leadership among nations and working to alleviate human suffering.

You still have some months to go before you join our small fraternity laughter of former Presidents. (Laughter.) I might point out that all but one of us were involuntarily retired, Mr. President. (Laughter.) But I can assure you that it will be a different life and one that you are certain to relish. Each President of the

United States is different from all the others, just as each citizen whom we have had the honor to serve is different from all of his or her neighbors. You'll make your own choices about what to do in your post-presidential years.

In order to utilize the literally indescribable influence and opportunities that you'll carry with you, having served as the leader of the greatest nation on earth, one of the easiest privileges of the future to visualize, and one of the fondest dreams is the right to privacy. In fact, early tomorrow morning, Rosalynn and I will be leaving Atlanta and flying with our fly rods out to meet some friends and to enjoy being with them in Colorado and Montana for a week or so. I can almost certainly say that we will not see a single news reporter in that entire time.
(Laughter.)

Now, just imagine, Mr. President, you'll be able to play golf without any television, telephoto lenses focused on your stroke. Isn't that great? (Laughter.) But I think I have to warn you that there are some down sides to being out of office, as well. I understand that golfing partners don't give as many mulligans to ex-presidents as they do to presidents.
(Laughter.)

Mr. President, Rosalynn and I hope that you and Hillary will find as much satisfaction and joy after you leave office as Rosalynn and I have found for ourselves. We left Washington in something of despair and embarrassment and disappointment and frustration. We didn't know what in the world we were going to do.

I was about the same age that you will be when you leave the White House. I found out from some of our friends at CDC that I still had 25 years of life expectancy left -- (laughter) -- what was I going to do with it? (Laughter.) And out of that has come the Carter Center, which has given us, in effect, a new life -- a life of pleasure and challenge and adventure, unpredictability about the future, intimate relationships with those who needed us, that I could never have had along with the official duties of the presidency.

We have formed intimate relationships with people in small villages in Africa and those hungry for freedom and democracy in Indonesia and in Haiti, as you mentioned, and in Paraguay and other countries. We've tried to bring them the blessings of America in a completely unofficial way, but in a personal way that will only come to you after you do leave your great office.

We look forward to working with both of you, Rosalynn and I do, after you establish your own foundation or your own center, or your own institution in the years to come, and become a fellow member of our small fraternity.

I thank you again for this honor. And I want to repeat, another time, how overwhelmed I've been with the words that you spoke -- as are many of the things that you've done in office, they are above and beyond the call of duty.

I accept this award on behalf of all of those assembled here, and those that couldn't come, who have worked side-by-side with us as partners, both in Washington and here in the Carter Center.

It's now my pleasure to introduce someone whom I love and respect and cherish, and honor: my wife, Rosalynn. (Applause.)

MRS. CARTER: Thank you very much. Thank you. (Applause.)

Thank you, Mr. President, also for your kind remarks, and for this award. We are honored by the recognition of our work. And I say "work," but it really hasn't been work at all. Well, maybe a little work -- (laughter) -- when we were in the White House, and when Jimmy was Governor.

But we've always done the things that we wanted to do and the things that we enjoyed doing. And one of the things that you'll find different, Mr. President, when you're out of office, is that you'll have options. You'll be able to pick and choose the things that you want to work on; you won't have to take care of everything at one time.

And whatever you undertake can be gratifying, we can assure you of that. We've had wonderful experiences, whether working in the field of mental health, or with care-givers, or immunization programs, or visiting some of our Carter Center programs. It's gratifying, for instance, to go into a village in Africa where half of the population at least, and sometimes more, are lying on mats on the ground suffering from Guinea worm disease and go back maybe a year, maybe 15 months later, and nobody have a Guinea worm.

And once we went into a village that still had Guinea worm, and there was a ceremony and we were sitting under a shelter made from sticks and palm fronds with a great crowd in front of us. And I looked out, and there was a little girl holding up a sign that said, "Better go away Guinea worm, Jimmy Carter's coming." (Laughter.) Or visiting one of our agricultural programs and have the farmer come running out with tears down his cheeks saying, "My sons have come home from the city because now we can raise enough food to feed all our family right here." That's not work, Mr. President.

Well, Jimmy and I have been -- have had great opportunities. We've been very privileged. The American people have given us unlimited chances, unlimited opportunities, and we have wonderful friends who support our programs here at the Carter Center and make it possible for us to do things that we never would ever have been able to do. We thank all of them.

We're grateful to all of them. And we thank you, Mr. President, again, for this honor. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT CARTER: That's the end of a beautiful program. Thank you all very much. We're going to leave now, and I want to express particularly my thanks to all of those who came from Washington and other places to be with us this afternoon at what, for me, is one of the most beautiful events of my life.

Thank you very much to you and to President Clinton. (Applause.)

END 7:30 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

August 5, 1999

Statement by the Press Secretary

President Clinton announced today that he will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor, to 10 distinguished individuals. The President will bestow the medals at ceremonies to take place during the week of August 9, 1999.

Lloyd M. Bentsen. President Clinton's first Secretary of the Treasury, Lloyd Bentsen served in the House of Representatives from 1948 to 1954. In 1970, he was elected to the United States Senate and served 22 years, including six as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Bentsen was the Vice-Presidential nominee for the Democratic Party in 1988.

Edgar M. Bronfman, Sr. As President of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman, Sr. has worked to ensure basic rights for Jews around the world and to fight anti-Semitism and has spearheaded the effort to retrieve the assets of Holocaust victims and their families. Through the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, he has supported educational, literary, scientific, charitable, and religious organizations throughout the world.

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. As Thirty-ninth President of the United States, Jimmy Carter brokered the Camp David accords, signed the Panama Canal Treaty, and reestablished normal diplomatic relations with China. Together, the Carters created the Carter Center to promote peace, democracy, and improved health around the world. Through the Center, they launched the Atlanta Project, a grass-roots program to combat urban social ills in the U.S. As a statesman, President Carter has been a successful diplomat in hot spots around the world. Mrs. Carter is a longtime advocate of improved mental health care, widespread childhood immunization, women's equality, and enhanced care for seniors. Each year, the Carters help to build homes for the needy through Habitat for Humanity.

Evy Dubrow. For more than 50 years, Evelyn "Evy" Dubrow has advocated for laws that would improve domestic labor conditions. A representative for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and for the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, she has been influential in numerous causes, including broadening laws against discrimination and protecting American industry from unfair foreign competition.

Sister M. Isolina Ferre. Founder and chief executive officer of Centros Sor Isolina Ferre, four community service centers in Puerto Rico, Sister M. Isolina Ferre first gained international recognition in the late 1950s and 1960s for her mediation efforts with youth gangs in Brooklyn, New York. Today, her centers operate clinics and programs to empower the disadvantaged, teach them self-reliance, and lift them out of poverty. For her work with the poor in Puerto Rico, Appalachia, and New York, she received the 1989 Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism.

Gerald R. Ford. Thirty-eighth President of the United States, Gerald Ford was elected to 13 terms in Congress before he was chosen by Richard Nixon to be his Vice President. As President, he brought the Vietnam War to a close. Recognized for his honesty and integrity, he worked to restore confidence in government and the Presidency.

Oliver White Hill. One of our nation's great civil rights lawyers, Oliver Hill is best known for litigating one of the school desegregation cases that became Brown v. Board of Education. He and his team of lawyers filed more civil rights suits in Virginia than were filed in any other southern state during the segregation era. In 1948, he became the first African-American politician since Reconstruction elected to the Richmond City Council.

Max Kampelman. Lawyer, negotiator, and diplomat, Max Kampelman held major negotiating posts under both Democratic and Republican administrations during the 1980s. In those roles, he emphasized human rights in East-West diplomacy and prepared the foundation for long-term arms reductions between the United States and the Soviet Union. President Reagan awarded Kampelman the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1989.

Edgar Wayburn. Five-time president and a member of board of directors of the Sierra Club for almost 40 years, Edgar Wayburn pushed for the expansion of California's Mt. Tamalpais State Park and fought for the establishment of Point Reyes National Seashore and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. He also helped to create Redwood National Park in California's Del Norte County and later worked for its expansion. His advocacy helped produce the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980, which protects 104 million acres.

The President will bestow the medal on President and Mrs. Carter in a ceremony at the Carter Center in Atlanta on August 9. The other honorees will receive their medals at a White House ceremony on August 11.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Atlanta, Georgia)

For Immediate Release

August 9, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The President today will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to President Carter and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter.

President Kennedy established the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Executive Order on February 22, 1963. He announced the first Presidential Medal of Freedom award recipients in 1963; and President Johnson made the first presentations of the Medal in a ceremony at the White House on December 6, 1963. It is the highest civilian award bestowed by the United States Government. The Medal is awarded by the President only to those persons whom he deems to have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. Citizens of other nations may receive the Medal, and honorees may receive it posthumously. Recipients are awarded a medal and a citation signed by the President.

The text of the citation presented to the Carters reads as follows:

JIMMY AND ROSALYNN CARTER

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter have forged an extraordinary partnership, devoting their lives to improving our Nation and our world. As America's 39th Chief Executive, President Carter placed human rights at the center of his foreign policy, achieved an extraordinary breakthrough for peace in the Middle East, and embraced America's challenges at home with unusual innovation and vigor. As a universally respected international statesman, he has worked to advance peace, democracy and human rights, and to diminish hunger and disease around the globe. A path-breaking First Lady and a powerful force for good, Rosalynn Carter has been a national leader for improved mental health care, childhood immunization, women's equality, and better care for seniors. Together, through their many good works and their powerful example, they have lifted the dignity of people everywhere. For this, they have earned a unique place in our history and the respect and gratitude of all Americans.

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Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Larry King Live

FYi-- These are the ones from Reagan's last two.

THE WHITE HOUSE

1998

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN'S BIRTHDAY

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I want to join all Americans in wishing you a happy birthday, President Reagan. Your optimism, your patriotism, and your determination to spread America's vision of freedom throughout the world represent the best our nation has to offer. With courage, and with your trademark sense of humor, you helped restore all Americans' confidence in America. Happy birthday, Mr. President.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

1999

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN'S BIRTHDAY

THE PRESIDENT: It gives me great pleasure to join in this celebration of what President Reagan likes to call the anniversary of his 38th birthday -- in this case, the 50th anniversary. Well, President Reagan may be 88, but remember, as he once said, in Celsius, that's only 31.

President Reagan's boundless optimism has always lifted our spirits and reminded us that America's best days are indeed ahead of us. His quiet courage and belief in our fundamental goodness, this country's fundamental goodness, continues to

inspire us all.

Hillary, Chelsea and I are honored to join the rest of America in wishing President Reagan a happy birthday, and sending our best regards to Mrs. Reagan and to all of you there.

* * * * *

Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP, Laura K. Demeo/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Carter Draft



I'm going to a hearing now, so page me if you need anything. carter.doc

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S 75th BIRTHDAY

Larry King Live

September 14

(Birthday October 1)

Hillary and I want to join all Americans in wishing you a happy 75th birthday, President Carter.

The work you have done during your presidency and through the Carter Center to improve our nation and our world is truly unparalleled in our nation's history. As you have continued your presidency through the Carter Center, you've visited 115 countries, to end hunger and disease and to spread the cause of peace; monitored more than 20 elections, where democracy is taking root; thanks in part to your efforts. You've worked to eradicate diseases for millions in Africa who are now living better lives. And you've written letters out of the public spotlight that have helped lead to the release of the dozens of political prisoners.

President Carter, you have fought for human rights, righted social wrongs, empowered others to achieve, and extended peace around the world, and you continue to inspire us all.

President Carter, Hillary, Chelsea and I wish you a wonderful birthday.

VIDEO REQUEST PROPOSAL

TODAY'S DATE 08/30/99 99 AUG 30 P 5:00

9/1 ✓ ACCEPT _____ REGRET _____ PENDING

TO: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President and Director of Scheduling

FROM: Joe Lockhart

REQUEST: For the President to participate in CNN's Larry King Live 75th
birthday celebration of President Carter.

PURPOSE: The President will honor President Carter.

DATE AND TIME: Next video session, event on Sept. 14.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT: CNN

BACKGROUND: President and Mrs. Carter will be the only guests on Larry King
Live. President Ford and Vice President Mondale are recording
videos for this.

DURATION: 1-3 minutes

REMARKS: Background on President Carter to follow.

STAFF CONTACT: Brenda Anders x6-5654

ORIGIN OF PROPOSAL: CNN's Larry King Live



To: Brenda Anders
From: Ilana Marcus
Re: Tape Request
Via Fax: 456-6409

Dear Brenda,

On September ¹⁴ ~~15~~ "Larry King Live" will devote an hour to pay tribute to President Jimmy Carter on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Larry will be joined by both President and Mrs. Carter on September ¹⁴ ~~15~~ in order for all the world to share in their celebration.

Both Larry and President Carter would obviously be thrilled if President and Mrs. Clinton could do a taped greeting for this program.

I would be glad to provide the tape and anything else that you would need in order to make this happen.

Thanks in advance for your help and consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Ilana Marcus
Producer, "Larry King Live"

Ford
Mondale



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January 21, 1997

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in our nation's capital for the annual awards dinner of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. As Honorary Co-Chairs, Hillary and I are delighted to join you in paying tribute to this year's honorees, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter and Dr. Joshua Lederberg, for all they have done to save lives and alleviate suffering.

Former President Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter are renowned for their compassionate aid to the people of this nation and the world, especially our children. Through the Carter Center's Interfaith Health Program, they have inspired faith groups around the country to join the battle against preventable disease within their own neighborhoods and communities. And they have brought together health professionals, government officials, business leaders, and others in dynamic partnerships to help the world's poorest people overcome the devastating effects of disease and malnutrition. It is most appropriate that you have chosen them as the first recipients of the special award you have named in their honor.

Nobel Laureate Joshua Lederberg, winner of NFID's 1997 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement, has made extraordinary contributions to the prevention and cure of infectious diseases. His pioneering research in the field of bacterial genetics has led to tremendous advances in public health. Dr. Lederberg is also responsible for bolstering our preparedness against the threat of bioterrorism. He embodies the ideals of dedication to knowledge, education, and service to others.

Americans have always been in the vanguard in the fight against disease, and we have won important battles against polio, smallpox, and other vaccine-preventable diseases. But we cannot afford to let our past successes make us complacent. Our enemy is strong and deadly but, by working together and emulating the commitment and compassion of your honorees, we can ensure a healthier future for our nation and our world.

Best wishes for a wonderful evening.

BC/MAH/lynn-efr-efr-emu (Corres. #3276984)

(12.lederberg.msg)

(Event: February 13, 1996)

✓ cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOB

SENT TO:

Leon G. Smith, M.D.

President

National Foundation

for Infectious Diseases

Suite 750

4733 Bethesda Avenue

^A
BILL CLINTON

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October 9, 1996

COPY

Warm greetings to everyone gathered for the 1996 Africare Bishop John T. Walker Memorial Dinner. I am delighted to join you in paying tribute to President Jimmy Carter for his extraordinary contributions to peace and human rights. Serving as a beacon of hope for the poor and disadvantaged in this country and around the world, President Carter exemplifies the true meaning of integrity, selflessness, and service.

If we are to make our world a better place, each of us must take responsibility for solving the problems around us. We must be interested not just in getting but in giving, not just in looking out for ourselves but in looking out for others.

Since 1971, the dedicated members of Africare have led the way in this endeavor. Africare has assisted millions of people across thirty-five nations in Africa. Whether feeding the hungry, curing illness, protecting natural resources, or caring for refugees, you are making a real difference in the lives of countless people. You have helped to strengthen families and communities and have supported effective public/private partnerships to bring help and hope to those in need.

As you celebrate your silver anniversary, I thank you for your compassion and commitment and send best wishes for much continued success.

BILL CLINTON A

BC/DI/MAH/DB/lynn-efr
(10.africare.msg)

(Corres. #3182385)

(Event: October 17, 1996)

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cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOB

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President, Morehouse School of Medicine

MARIA WALKER

OSWALDENE E. WALKER, M.S., D.D.S.
Periodontist

CURTIN WINSOR, Jr., Ph.D.
President, Legislative Studies Institute

AMBASSADOR OUMAROU G. YOUSSEFOU

President:

C. PAYNE LUCAS



Africare

Africare helps Africa, with programs in
food, water, the environment, health and
emergency humanitarian aid as well as
private-sector development and governance.

September 19, 1996

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As I informed you in my letter of April 12, the Africare Bishop John T. Walker Memorial Dinner — which you attended last year — will be held this year on Thursday, October 17, at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

I am writing now to request a letter from you for publication in our Africare Dinner souvenir program. I have attached copies of the letters you generously supplied for our 1993, 1994 and 1995 programs. For the convenience of your staff, I have also included a draft letter to work from for 1996.

Should you agree to provide us with a letter, we will need to have it in hand by Friday, September 27.

To back up, this year's Dinner will celebrate Africare's 25th anniversary. More important, we will present our 1996 Bishop Walker Humanitarian Award to former President Jimmy Carter for his tremendous accomplishments in peace, human rights, food production, health and more. Gen. and Mrs. Colin Powell have graciously agreed to serve as the event's National Honorary Patrons.

My April 12 letter invited you to join us at the 1996 Africare Dinner. Specifically, I asked if you could deliver remarks. If remarks are not possible, we would welcome you at whatever point you could drop by. A May 9 letter from your scheduling office indicated that our invitation remains under consideration and that we will be told if your attendance becomes possible.

Thank you, sir, for your consideration. Also enclosed are a Dinner invitation and a background packet. If any questions arise, I can be reached through the Africare Dinner Office at (202) 328-5376.

Respectfully,


C. Payne Lucas
President

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MEDD2

July 11, 1996

Warm greetings to the members of Lions Clubs International as you gather in Montreal for the third plenary session of your seventy-ninth International Convention. I am delighted to congratulate former President Jimmy Carter as you honor him with the 1996 Humanitarian Award.

For generations, the members of Lions Clubs International have embodied the highest ideals of service, with practical strategies to promote hope and opportunity among the world's most vulnerable people. In particular, your current efforts to teach children the dangers of drug abuse and violence are helping to create a safer and brighter future for us all. Each of you can take great pride in the success of your steadfast commitment to the well-being of the world's young people.

I am pleased that you have chosen to honor President Carter with this year's Humanitarian Award. A distinguished philanthropist and a visionary leader, Jimmy Carter's innovative humanitarian measures and basic human decency have brought healing and renewal to every corner of the globe. His lifelong dedication to promoting peace and progress serves as an inspiration for leaders and citizens of all nations. By honoring him, you pay tribute to the spirit of compassion that is humanity's greatest hope for the future.

Best wishes to all for a memorable event.

BILL CLINTON

BC/SEM/emu (Corres. #3010198)
(7.lions.msg)

(Event: 7/12/96)

✓cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOb

SENT TO:
Dr. William Wunder
Lions Clubs International
300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60521-8842

COPY

✓DO NOT MAIL -- RETURN TO CARMEN FOWLER, 91 OEOb, FOR DISPATCH

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

26-Jun-1996 07:04pm

TO: Doris O. Matsui

FROM: Patricia M. McMahon
National Drug Control Policy

CC: Dennis Burke

SUBJECT: Letter to Lions Clubs International/ Pres. Carter's award

July 12, 1996

Dr. William Wunder
Lions Clubs International
300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Il. 60521-8842

Dear Dr. Wunder,

Upon the occasion of President Carter receiving the prestigious Lions Clubs International Humanitarian Award, Hillary I also wish to commend him on his notable and outstanding contribution to improving living conditions around the world for those who have not had the opportunities that many of us have experienced. President Carter has made a significant impact on the lives of many disadvantaged families and children.

The Lions Clubs International are also to be congratulated for recognizing the accomplishments of President Carter and for your initiative next year that will address the global problem of street children who are at risk of drug abuse and violence. Your leadership in this effort to engage our young people throughout the world to become healthy, responsible citizens is an inspiration.

Thank you for your support and commitment to the recent "Prevention Through Leadership" meeting held in Washington, D.C. Your efforts brought together representatives from over thirty leading civic and youth serving volunteer organizations to plan activities to reduce youth involvement in drugs, gangs and violence in an historic meeting. My Administration is committed to a collaborative effort to encourage volunteer efforts in helping youth become productive and valued members of our society.

Congratulations on your continued achievements and to President Carter in his unfaltering belief in community volunteer organizations.

Sincerely,
President...

Josh

Gottheimer

DEOB 196
|



Brenda Anders
White House Press Office
Via Fax: 456-6409

September 1, 1999

Dear Brenda,

On September 14, 1999, *Larry King Live*, will devote an hour to President Jimmy Carter on his 75th birthday. We would like to include a taped greeting from the President during the program.

Here is a short biography for President Carter for your convenience.

- **President Jimmy Carter was born October 1, 1924. He will be 75 years old.**
- **Full name is James Earl Carter, Jr.**
- **Born in Plains, Georgia to James Earl, Sr. and Lillian Carter.**
- **Married Rosalynn Smith on July 7, 1946. They have four children: John William (Jack), James Earl (Chip) III, Donnel Jeffrey (Jeff) and Amy Lynn.**
- **Graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1946. Served for seven years as a submariner. He worked under Admiral Hyman Rickover in the development of the nuclear submarine fleet.**
- **Won election to the Georgia State Senate in 1962.**
- **Lost his initial campaign for governor in 1966, but won four years later in 1970. He was sworn in as governor of Georgia on January 12, 1971.**
- **Nominated on the first ballot at the 1976 Democratic National Convention.**
- **Elected 39th President of the United States on November 2, 1976.**
- **Notable accomplishments: 1978 Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel, established full diplomatic relations with China, completed negotiations on SALT II nuclear limitation treaty with the Soviet Union.**

Other notes:

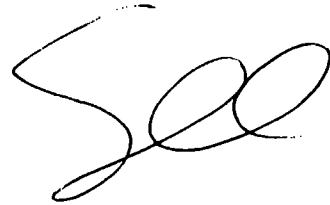
- **Family has been in farming in this country for over 350 years.**
- **Inspired to enter politics by his father, who was active in the local community, serving on the school board, in the church and on the hospital authority. Said Carter in 1991, "I saw that my daddy's life was very valuable to people."**
- **His mother was a registered nurse, and in the poor rural areas where they lived, was often the sole provider of medical care. Said Carter in the same 1991 interview, "They would come to my mother...and she would help them with childbirth or with illnesses without any charge."**
- **Serves on the board of directors and is a regular volunteer for Habitat for Humanity.**
- **Teaches Sunday school and is a deacon at Maranatha Baptist Church of Plains, GA.**

Thanks!
Haa



820 First Street, N.E. ■ Washington, D.C. 20002 ■ 202.898.7690

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Cologne, Germany)

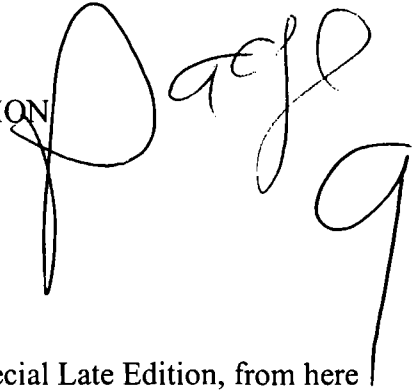


For Immediate Release June 20, 1999

INTERVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT
BY WOLF BLITZER, CNN LATE EDITION

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Cologne, Germany

4:27 P.M. (L)



Q Mr. President, thank you so much for joining us on this very special Late Edition, from here in Cologne.

There have been reports that President Yeltsin has been ill, erratic, that his behavior has been shaky. You just met with him a little while ago; what's your impression?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, his behavior was neither erratic, nor shaky today. He was strong, clear, forceful, and looking to the future. We actually had quite a good meeting. We got a lot done. We set out an agenda to continue to work on reducing the nuclear threat, to continue to work on reducing the likelihood of any cooperation of Russian entities with Iran's missile technology development, with working to help Russia comply with the IMF and get its economy going strongly again. And, obviously, we talked about our commitment to fully implement the agreements we made over Kosovo.

So today, all I can tell you is I had good personal experience. He was clear, concise and direct and strong.

Q But a lot of people were concerned when the Russians sent those 150 or 200 soldiers into Pristina so secretly. With the Russians still having thousands of nuclear warheads, should Americans be concerned about the security, the safety of that nuclear arsenal, if there's a problem between civilian and military control of the Russian military?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, so far I can only tell you what our experience is, now in its six and a half years. We've worked very well with the Russian military to implement the system that was set up, actually, before I became President, although we've tried to strengthen it -- to strengthen the Russian security over nuclear weapons, to strengthen security over other materials -- President Yeltsin and I agreed last year to destroy 50 tons of plutonium arising out of nuclear operations. We have great confidence in that, and it's working quite well. I have no reason to believe that it won't continue to do so.

Q But will you concede, though, that the dash for the airport in Pristina, and the grabbing hold of that piece of territory helped them get a better deal for their peacekeepers in Kosovo than would have been the case if they had not done so?

THE PRESIDENT: I'm not sure that's right, for the following reason: I felt it was important, myself -- and I told all of our people this, and several of our NATO allies -- that Russia have a different role in Kosovo, because of the importance of making clear our common commitment to protect civilians, both the Kosovar Albanians who are coming home and the Serbs who remain. Therefore, I thought it was important for Russia to have its forces in more than one of these sectors. And of course, as you know now, they'll be working with us and with the Germans and the French.

So they may believe that, the Russians may believe that. But in my own mind, I had already determined that if our allies would go along, they should be in more than one sector.

Q But not necessarily in control of the airport, which originally was going to be the strategic headquarters for the peacekeepers.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, but now the division of labor they have worked out at the airport is quite acceptable to us and guarantees that the mission can go forward. So I think that's the most important thing.

We have to -- every decision we made, including the agreements made with the Russians, had one thing uppermost in their minds: Will the mission succeed? That is, today it's a very happy day -- the Serbian forces will go out on schedule, the last of them. We have about 20,000 of our NATO peacekeepers in there; 62,000 of the Kosovars have already come home -- some of them before we wanted them to, because of the de-mining operations. So I feel very good about where we're going with this now, and I'm leaving here with real confidence that we are going to succeed in achieving all of our objectives. Q But you have to be concerned about the potential for the KLA, the Kosovo Liberation Army -- the revenge, the hatred, the fact that -- they're not going to be satisfied with autonomy. They're going to want full independence from Serbia. The potential for danger to those U.S. troops is very, very real.

THE PRESIDENT: There is a potential for danger for all troops, from both disgruntled Kosovar Albanians, or disgruntled or frightened Serbs in Kosovo. But I am encouraged that the leaders of the KLA have now signed on to the commitment to demilitarize. They've agreed to put away their uniforms; to give up their big weapons, their non-pistol weapons; to do everything we have asked them to do.

Might there be individuals or small groups who are full of anger and seek revenge? Of course. And we'll have to be very vigilant, just as we've had to be vigilant in Bosnia.

I also think we're going to have to work hard to take initiative, to try to take some of that venom out of the atmosphere. When Elie Wiesel, our Nobel laureate who survived the Holocaust, came back from the tour I asked him to take of the camps, he talked about how troubled he was by the

children, the families, how much we needed to work on that, and how hard we'd have to work to get people, religious leaders and others in there to try to get people to turn away from revenge.

But this is a problem everywhere where such things occur. And you'd look at these hideous accounts that are just now coming out, even worse than we imagined, about the mass killings and the graves and the unusual, almost unimaginable, cruelty. So it will take them some time to get through that, and we're going to work with them.

Q You know, some in the U.S. military, though, are concerned that just as -- when the U.S., when President Reagan sent troops into Lebanon, there were high expectations. When you sent troops into Somalia, there were high expectations. Things could go sour quickly. Is that realistic, or are you taking certain steps that will prevent another Lebanon or Somalia?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think we learned a lot about that. And when we went to Bosnia, where all the same things were present -- remember, we'd had a quarter of a million people killed; we'd had 2.5 million refugees; we had all those horrible internment camps -- all the hideous, awful stories we're hearing now out of Kosovo we had in Bosnia for a longer period of time.

So we did a lot of extra work on security. And we were quite careful about how we defined our mission and how we carried it out, based on lessons learned both in Lebanon and in Somalia.

And so we'll try to carry those lessons through. I can't tell the American people there will not be any violent incident, that no American will ever be harmed or killed. But I can say that we have learned the lessons of the last several years, and I think what we are doing is profoundly important.

Q In your Oval Office address, you declared victory. Some of your critics, though, say that as long as President Slobodan Milosevic is in power, there is no victory.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's two different things. Let me first say that when I spoke to the American people, I said we had three objectives: to reverse the ethnic cleansing, and bring the Kosovar Albanians home -- we're doing that; 62,000 are already back -- to do it in a way that would keep our Alliance together -- we're stronger than we ever were; and that I would seek a partnership with Russia as we had in Bosnia -- we have now formalized that partnership, so that even though our relationships with Russia were quite strained during this period of the conflict, I think that we're actually in a position to have a stronger relationship with Russia in the future than we had before the conflict started. And so I feel good about that. So that is victory.

Now, do I think the Serbian people would be better off without Mr. Milosevic? You bet I do. He has been indicted by the War Crimes Tribunal, and every day now we see the vivid pictures which graphically demonstrate that it was even worse than we imagined. There is no statute of limitations on that. The Serbian -- the leader of the Serbian Church has now called for him to step aside. And I certainly hope that will happen, and we have time to focus on that. But first, we've got to do the mission. We've got to bring the folks home in safety and self-government.

Q Well, what the critics also say is that the U.S. and the NATO allies have done nothing to go after other leading indicted war criminals -- Serbs, Ratko Mladic, Radovan Karadzic, Arkan. Why should President Milosevic be any more concerned than they are? They're all still free men.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, in our sector in Bosnia, we have arrested people who were indicted, and so have the British, and we have worked with them. And I think that would be a big mistake for Mr. Milosevic now. We may not have an extradition agreement with Serbia. But he -- as long as he remains at large, there is no statute of limitations. And if I were in his position, I wouldn't take too much comfort from that. But the best thing that can happen for the Serbian people is if he were no longer president.

Q And you think that's realistic, that that could happen anytime soon?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think that I shouldn't comment on that right now. But I think that there's -- with the church leaders calling for him to step down, with the people in the opposition in Serbia calling for him to do so, and with the commitment we have made as allies to support humanitarian aid to the Serbs, but no reconstruction aid as long as he's there, I think that's a pretty clear message.

Q You know about the reports that you've signed an intelligence finding to actively seek to undermine his regime?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't comment on those things. I can't --

Q I knew you wouldn't, but I figured I would ask anyhow.

Let's move on to talk about -- under the category of "now the truth can be told." When you gave the order to launch the air strikes, did you ever believe in your wildest imagination it would take 78 days, and all the devastation that it did take, to finally declare a victory?

THE PRESIDENT: I'll tell you what I thought. I thought that there was maybe a 50-percent chance it would be over in a week -- because once he knew we would do it, I thought he would remember Bosnia, and I thought he would understand what we could do. But I knew that if he decided to take the punishment of the air campaign, it could go on quite a long while, because he would be trying all along to divide the allies, or to bring pressure from the outside, to try to find some way to bring it to a close.

And so I told everybody when we started, I said, look, if we start this, and it doesn't work out in two or three days, we've got to be prepared to go on.

I knew that we had, because of the facts of this case, the capacity -- with the sophisticated weaponry and the skill of our pilots -- I knew we had the capacity to essentially take down the military apparatus and the economic apparatus supporting it. But I knew it could take quite a long time. I didn't have any specific deadline, but I knew it could take quite a long time.

Q Mr. President, some of your aides are now talking about a Clinton doctrine in foreign policy, in the aftermath of this war against Yugoslavia. Is there, in your mind, a Clinton doctrine?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think there's an important principle here that I hope will be now upheld in the future -- and not just by the United States, not just by NATO, but also by the leading countries of the world, through the United Nations. And that is that while there may well be a great deal of ethnic and religious conflict in the world -- some of it might break out into wars -- that whether within or beyond the borders of a country, if the world community has the power to stop it, we ought to stop genocide and ethnic cleansing. People ought -- innocent civilians ought not to be subject to slaughter because of their religious or ethnic or racial or tribal heritage.

That is what we did, but took too long in doing, in Bosnia. That is what we did, and are doing, in Kosovo. That is, frankly, what we failed to do in Rwanda, where so many died so quickly -- and what I hope very much we'll be able to do in Africa, if it ever happens there again.

Q All right. Let's move on to some domestic issues. Guns -- a big subject this past week. Do you really believe it's realistic, it's appropriate, to register all guns in the United States? And if that were done, would that stop the violence?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, you asked two questions. Realistic? In this Congress, perhaps not. Appropriate? Sure -- we register cars, and if we did register them, it would be easier to track sales, and easier to do comprehensive background checks.

But that's not what I asked the Congress to do. All I asked the Congress to do was to close the loophole for sales at gun shows and flea markets, so we could do the same background checks we now do at gun stores. And do I think that would make America a less violent place? Yes, I think there would be less crime with guns if that happened.

We already -- under the Brady Bill, we've stopped 400,000 improper sales. And we also have a 25-year low in our crime rate, and violent crime coming down, on average, even slightly more than that. So do I think violent crime would go down more? Absolutely I do.

Q And the registration you're going to hold off on for the time being?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. I mean, if we can't close the gun show loophole, we're certainly not going to pass that.

But let me ask you this -- and that doesn't have anything to do with the right to keep and bear arms. We have -- there's a constitutional right to travel in America, enshrined by the Supreme Court as a constitutional right. No one believes that registering our cars, or proving that we know how to drive them, undermines our constitutional right to travel. It facilitates our constitutional right to travel by making sure we're safe on the road and that we know what we're doing.

Q All right, but you will concede, though, that the Democrats have a potential political bonanza from this defeat of the legislation this past week, going into the elections next year.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, if the public supports this. But I didn't want a political bonanza, I wanted a safer America. And our party did not seek political points on this. We sought -- if we wanted a political bonanza, we would have gone in with a bunch of issues that we knew were popular that we had no chance to pass. We thought -- we went in there with an agenda that we thought we could pass that we knew would make America a safer place.

No one questions -- no one seriously questions, after the experience of the last five years with the Brady Bill, that if we close the gun show and flea market loophole, that there will be fewer improper sales and it will make America safer, at minimum disruption to the people who buy and sell guns and use them lawfully. So that's -- what we've tried to do is to get things done that would make America a safer place.

Q All right. Speaking about politics, let's talk about presidential politics. Do you think that Texas Governor George W. Bush is qualified to be President of the United States?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's a decision the American people have to make.

Q Well, what do you think?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think -- you know, for one thing, we've got to see where he stands on the issues. So far, we know almost nothing of that, except what we know from his record as governor. He said -- his announcement speech was very well crafted, and was strikingly reminiscent of what those of us who call ourselves New Democrats have been saying since 1991.

But on the specifics, I just don't know. I mean, for example, he said nothing about this gun battle going on in the House. He signed the concealed weapons bill in the Texas legislature. That's just the one example.

The one thing I thought the Vice President did particularly well when he announced was to say, I'm very proud of what we've done in the last six and a half years; I've got all the relevant experience to be President, but the important thing is, what are we going to do in the next four years; and here are specific things I will do. I think that Governor Bush owes it to the American people to say the same thing.

Q Well, why is Vice President Gore so far behind Governor Bush in the polls, and what does the Vice President have to do to catch up?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think in historical terms, he's not particularly far behind. I think if you go back and look at this point in 1959, when candidate Richard Nixon, Vice President Richard Nixon, was going to run as the Republican nominee, he was considerably further behind Adlai Stevenson, who was the best-known Democrat at the time.

I think the American people -- the encouraging thing to me is that two-thirds of them have said they want to know more about all the candidates, including the Vice President. And I believe when they look at experience, proven success, and the program for the future -- most -- all elections are about tomorrow -- I think he's going to do very well.

Q Do you think that he was trying, this week, to distance himself from you, the Vice President, by saying, almost volunteering, that your behavior last year was inexcusable?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I took no offense at it. He didn't say anything that I hadn't said in much starker terms a long time ago. So there was nothing inappropriate about that.

I thought the most important thing he did, frankly, by far, was to say, I've got experience in areas that matter, and we have succeeded; here's what I'm going to do, specifically, if you elect me; and the real choice is whether you want to build on this record of success and go beyond it, or you want to go back.

I think -- keep in mind, the American people will view this election, as they should -- as they should -- as about them, their children, and their future. All elections are about tomorrow. So if you've been a good Vice President, or a good Governor of Texas -- for the voters at election time, that's only valuable if it's evidence that you'll do good tomorrow.

They hire you; they give you a check every two weeks to do a good job. So I thought the most important thing he did was to talk about his future vision.

Q All right, let's talk about the First Lady's potential run for the Senate from New York. When did you discover, when did you learn that the First Lady was a New York Yankees fan?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, when I first -- shortly after I met her, because I'm a big baseball fan. I mean, I'm --

Q You know, a lot of people think she just came up --

THE PRESIDENT: I know that. But she said how it came to be. Her primary allegiance all her life has been to the Chicago Cubs. If you go to Chicago, basically, most of the people on the North Side are for the Cubs, most of the people on the South Side are for the White Sox. And she said, but I also -- I remember back in the '70s, we were talking about other baseball, and she said, but I like the Yankees, too. I said, well, why don't you like the White Sox? She said, if you're from Chicago, you're for the White Sox or the Cubs, and normally not both. So our family always liked the Yankees.

Q All right. You know, there --

THE PRESIDENT: I learned it a long time ago.

Q -- you know, there are reports out today in U.S. News and World Report that she's thinking of moving out of the White House and getting a place in New York in the fall.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it's not true that she's going to move out of the White House. But let me answer the report. Months ago, we said that we intended to get a place in New York. We talked -- we started talking not long after we moved to the White House about where we would live when we got out. She's always wanted to live in New York, so we said we'd do that. And I would divide my time between New York and going home to Arkansas, and finishing my library and doing my work there.

Now, if she runs for the Senate, she'll obviously have to spend a lot more time there. But it will be more like an incumbent member of Congress running for reelection -- that is, she's not going to stop being First Lady and doing her other responsibilities, but she'll have to spend a lot more time in New York, and we'll have to get a place there for her to be while she's spending her time there.

Q If she runs for the Senate, will you be eligible to vote for her in New York State? In other words, would you move your voting registration from Arkansas to New York?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I might, because I think every vote counts, and I'd certainly want her to win if she ran.

Q Could be that close?

THE PRESIDENT: I will say this. I think, if this is what she wants to do. If she wants, if she decides to do this, I will be enthusiastically supportive, because I think she would be truly magnificent. I think she'd be great for the people of New York, and good for the people of America.

In all the years I've been in public life, of all the people I've ever known, she has been the most consistently, seriously dedicated to the kinds of public issues that I think are important today -- to the welfare of children, the strength of families, the future of education, quality of health care. I mean, this is something -- if the people of New York chose her, they would have somebody with 30 years of unbroken, consistent, committed dedication, who knows a lot and is great with working with people. So if that's what she wants, I'm strong for it.

Q And so you're ready to move from --

THE PRESIDENT: I'm ready to do whatever she wants. I will be -- whatever the facts are about her running for the Senate, I'll be dividing my time between New York and home, because I've got a library to build, I've got a public policy center to set up, and it's a real gift I want to give my native state and I want it to be something wonderful and good. So --I've spent quite a lot of time on it already.

Q Mr. President, you've always been someone who's looked ahead. When you look ahead to your personal life after you leave the White House, what do you see?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it depends in part on what Hillary does. You know, I'll probably be going to meetings of the Senate spouses' club, if she decides to run. But I want to continue to be active in areas that I care a great deal about. And I think that through my library and through the public policy center, and perhaps through some other activities, I can continue to work on some of the issues of world peace, and reconciliation of people across these racial and religious lines that I've devoted so much of my life to. I can continue the work at home on issues that I care a great deal about, including involving young people in public service, whether it's young people in AmeriCorps or young Americans who are interested in running for public office. I've given a lot of thought to it.

But I'll find something useful to do. I want to work hard. I'm too early -- it's too early to quit work, and I'm not good enough to go on the senior golf tour. So I expect I'll have to just keep on doing what I'm doing.

Q So what -- I'm hearing more of the Jimmy Carter model as opposed to a Gerald Ford model.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, that may just be a function of age and circumstance. I think President Carter has been the most effective former President in my lifetime, and one of the three or four most important former Presidents, in his public service and the quality of his work, in the entire history of the United States. So what I would do wouldn't be exactly what he had done, but I think the model of what he's done and how he's done it is a good model for every former President who gets out who still has good health and a few years left.

Q Okay, Mr. President. I'm told we're all out of time. I want to thank you very much for joining us for this special Late Edition here in Cologne.

THE PRESIDENT: This is your last trip with me, so I want to thank you for six and a half good years. Good luck.

Q Thank you very much. It's been an honor to cover you.

END 4:45 P.M. (L) _

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Atlanta, Georgia)

For Immediate Release August 9, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE OPENING ASSEMBLY OF THE
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Sydney J. Marcus Auditorium
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia

5:10 P.M. EDT

EXCERPTS HERE, JOSH:

If I might, I'd like to take just a moment to pay tribute to a man whose life and career were a testament to these objectives, Judge Frank Johnson. Few Americans struck so many blows for equal justice. I was honored to award him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995. We all miss him, but our nation is better because he lived and served.

When I leave you tonight, I go to honor with another Presidential Medal of Freedom, another American whose commitment to equal justice and to world peace are unequal -- President Jimmy Carter. Among President Carter's many and varied contributions to our national life is his record of support for civil rights and for diversity and excellence on the federal bench. I have worked hard to build on that record.

I'm proud that the judges I have appointed during my tenure are the most diverse group in American history. Nearly half are women and minorities, more than half the current judicial nominees are. But they have shattered the destructive myth that diversity and quality do not go hand in hand. In fact, thanks to your committee, my appointees have garnered the highest percentages of top ABA ratings of any president in nearly 40 years.

Final 09/06/99 5pm
Josh Gottheimer

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**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S 75TH BIRTHDAY
LARRY KING LIVE
September 14, 1999
[Actual Birthday October 1]**

President Carter, Hillary and I join all Americans in wishing you a very happy 75th birthday.

From building homes to building peace, you have spent a lifetime making our nation and our world better. As President, you put America's commitment to human rights squarely at the heart of our foreign policy, and helped nations in the Mid East, Asia, and Africa learn to live in peace. As a private citizen, you have continued those efforts through the Carter Center. And now, in no small part because of your efforts, more than half the globe's people live in freedom.

Mr. President, by doing justice, by loving mercy, and by walking humbly with God, you have inspired goodness in the hearts and lives of others in our country and around the world. Happy birthday, Mr. President.

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Award

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 - beat seg
 - Thru good Marshall
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- Just last month continue
- just one issue
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- As we enter, gather 90915
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