

there's an increasing amount of homelessness. And I was wondering why have there been cuts in welfare?

The President. Well, to the best of my knowledge, unless you've done something here in Illinois I don't know about, I don't know that there have been cuts in welfare unless there was a State program that got cut. At the national level, there's been no cut in welfare, but the welfare check has not kept up with inflation. However, that's not the primary problem with homelessness. One of the things that we find is, increasingly, you've got families that are out of work that are homeless as well as people who have some terrible problem in their lives. And what I think we've got to do is not only improve the welfare system, which I want to do—that is, I want to spend—people on welfare I believe should be required to work but only after they've had education and training and until their children are supported with health care. Then I think you can require them to work.

So I think that is very important. But the homeless problem is a different one. One of the things that I'm most proud of about my Government now is that the person in charge of this, Henry Cisneros, who used to be the mayor of San Antonio, has really spent an enormous amount of time trying to figure out all the different reasons people are homeless and why getting homeless people off the street involves a lot more than just building shelters where people come in and spend a night or two, and then they're homeless again.

And what we're trying to do this year is take an approach to the homeless problem which will really give us a chance to go in and, family by family, person by person, examine why are these people homeless, what would it take to put them in control of their own lives again, and what do we have to do to do it. And I believe that within a year or so, you will be able to see some real results from our efforts with the homeless.

I keep telling our Cabinet, if we could just do one thing, just one thing that would make America feel better about itself, it would be to get these folks off the street and into a constructive life. People in our country want that, I think. I think all kinds of Americans

want that. I think it breaks America's heart to see all these folks trapped in a life that they can't really seriously want to live forever. And we're going to do our best to do better. I'm glad all of you care so much about that. Thank you.

They say we've got to go. I'm on my way to Pittsburgh. It's an interesting story. You talked about the rest of the world—I'm supposed to meet with the Prime Minister of Britain tonight, Great Britain. His grandfather worked in a steel mill in Pittsburgh. And his father was a circus performer in the United States. Just shows you what a small world it is.

I really have loved being here. I wish I could stay all day and answer your questions. You asked great questions, those of you who asked questions, and I wish we could have taken some more.

Please remember what I said. If you have other questions like this, you ought to bring these concerns to your Congressman. That's what he's here for, to bring them to me in Washington. I feel a lot better about the young people of the country just being here with you and listening to you ask these questions and knowing how much you care. And I will say again, I'll try to do the best I can on the issues we've talked about today. And you do the best you can to stick with what's on the wall. And we're going to do fine.

Thank you. Good luck. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:15 p.m. in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Starr Nelson, vice president of the senior class, Mayor Dwight Welch of Country Club Hills, and to a sign the students addressed to him which pledged their commitment to fighting domestic and world problems.

Remarks Welcoming Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

February 28, 1994

Thank you very much, Senator Wofford, Congressman Coyne, Mayor Murphy, Commissioners Foerster and Flaherty, and my friends. I'm glad to be back in Pittsburgh. I want to thank the band for their wonderful music and the Scouts for your fine salute and

your fine work, thank you. And I want you to join me in welcoming Prime Minister John Major back to the United States of America.

It's funny how this trip came about. Last July in Tokyo of all places, John Major and I were sitting around at night talking, and he said, "You know, my grandfather worked in the steel mills in Pittsburgh, and my father lived and worked here a while in the late 1800's before moving back to England." So I thought the next time John Major came to the United States, he ought to see America and come to Pittsburgh.

I want to emphasize to all of you here in the heartland of America how important the relationship between the United States and Great Britain is. We worked together to support reform in the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the cold war, in Russia and in all those other former Communist states, to try to give democracy a chance. We worked together for a new world trade agreement to bring down trade barriers and open world markets to the products that American workers make. We worked together to make NATO stronger and more adaptable, to reach out to all those nations in the former Communist world and give them a chance to work with us to unify Europe in peace and democracy, in ways that will make America a safer and more prosperous place for decades to come. We're working together today to respond to the terrible tragedy in Bosnia, to try to bring an end to the killing and to bring peace and to keep that conflict from spreading in ways that could threaten the interests of the United States and Great Britain as well as the conscience of the civilized world.

And we do have a great partnership, as Senator Wofford noted, right here in Pittsburgh between British Air and USAir. It's been a good thing for the people of this town. Tomorrow we'll have a chance to talk about that and talk about some of the other tough issues that we face—the state of reform in Russia. The Prime Minister and I have both been in Moscow in the last couple of months. A struggle over the future of reform in Russia is underway. We have a vital stake in the outcome. We have to continue to encourage democracy, respect for neighbors, and real eco-

nomie reform in that country. It's in your interest and mine.

We also hope we can continue to press for peace in Bosnia. Britain is the second largest contributor to the United Nations troop effort in Bosnia, and over the last year, I want to say to all of you that the British have saved thousands of innocent civilians' lives there by their presence. We intend to continue working with them until we get a just and fair peace in Bosnia.

We're going to discuss what we want to do with NATO. We're going to discuss the political courage and the vision shown by Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Reynolds of Ireland in working toward peace in Northern Ireland together. Their historic joint declaration offers new hope for that goal of peace. And as the President of this country, a country full of Americans of British descent and full of Americans of Irish descent, I again urge an end to the use of violence as a means of solving political problems and achieving political aims. It has no place in that effort.

The next time I see John Major after this trip, I'll be visiting Britain in June to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-day and to affirm for a new generation of Britons and Americans the importance of our enduring partnership. We must continue to build on it, economically, politically, strategically. We have benefited immensely from our ties to Britain, and they have benefited from their ties to us. We are working together in ways that I think will benefit the children in this audience. The agreement on world trade concluded at the end of last year is perhaps the most concrete recent example of what we are trying to do for future generations.

In the months and years ahead, we'll have to continue to work on our issues of common concern. Not very long from now, we're going to have a jobs conference with Great Britain and other European powers in Detroit to discuss the difficulties that the United States and all the powers of Europe and Japan are all having creating new jobs in this difficult global environment and what things we can learn from each other to create more opportunities for all of our people.

Well, now I'm going to introduce the Prime Minister and say, after he speaks, we're going to look around Pittsburgh.

When John Major's grandfather and father were here, this city was the heart of America's industrial might. Today it's the center of its high technology and economic innovation. It's a city of the future as well as a city with a past. And so in the spirit of renewal that is the story of Pittsburgh today, I ask you to join me in reaffirming the bonds between the American and the British people in welcoming to the microphone the Prime Minister of Great Britain, John Major.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:44 p.m. at the Air Force Reserve base at Pittsburgh International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Tom Murphy of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County Commissioners Tom Foerster and Pete Flaherty.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister John Major in Pittsburgh

February 28, 1994

Northern Ireland

Q. Mr. President, do you think granting a visa to Gerry Adams paid off in terms of progress toward peace in Northern Ireland?

The President. It's too soon to say. I'm supporting, very strongly supporting the initiative that Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Reynolds have undertaken in the joint declaration. I hope it will; it's too soon to say. I'm pulling for them.

Q. Mr. Prime Minister, you obviously saw it differently, or your government did, as far as Adams—[*inaudible*—this weekend, Sinn Fein has not indicated any willingness to call for an end to the arms struggle. What is your reaction to that, and what is the President's reaction?

Prime Minister Major. Well, we both want the violence to cease. That's what the joint declaration is about. It provides an opportunity for the violence to cease and for Sinn Fein to legitimately enter the constitutional talks. Now, I think that is a sensible way ahead. It's a highway ahead that wasn't there before. It is there now. And I think when you look at the opinion expressed by Irishmen right across the whole island of Ire-

land, by an overwhelming majority, they believe that that option should be taken. You have to wait and see whether it is.

Thank you.

[At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.]

Q. Do you like that [microphone], Mr. President?

The President. I wish there were a hunting season on these. [*Laughter*]

Prime Minister Major. I'm going to wake up one morning, and there will be one of those things on the pillow. [*Laughter*]

Q. And what will you say?

The President. Whatever it is, it will be known to all of England. I told the press once that there had been this raging debate for 12 years in America over the constitutional right to privacy and what it meant, whether we should keep it and what it should extend to, and all while, the boom mike had been abolishing it with no one noticing. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The exchange began at 8:05 p.m. in the Tin Angel Restaurant. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Nomination for the Deputy United States Representative to the United Nations

February 28, 1994

The President today announced his intent to nominate Edward William Gnehm, Jr., a career member of the Senior Foreign Service to be the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He would succeed Edward S. Walker, Jr.

"I am confident Mr. Gnehm's extensive foreign affairs background and foreign service experience will provide a valuable contribution to our representation abroad," the President said, adding, "I am delighted to nominate him to the post of Deputy Representative to the United Nations."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.