

We have more investments coming in so we've created more jobs. It's very encouraging. It's a good sign.

### **Northern Ireland**

**Q.** Have you given any second thoughts about having Gerry Adams come to this country since what he has said, since he has made his comments, since—

**The President.** No, I don't know yet, I don't think we can draw a conclusion yet that it will in the long run be a positive thing for the peace process, but I don't think we can say it's negative, either. I think that we made a judgment call that we ought to try to encourage them to move towards the joint declaration and to try to make peace. I think it was a good judgment call. I think it was well-founded, and I still believe that.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** Are you beginning to have a sense of where Congress is going now on the health care plan? And do you have any ideas about where some of the major compromises are coming right now?

**The President.** No, because they're still in the subcommittees. I don't, but I will be before long.

### **Balanced Budget Amendment**

**Q.** Have you got the votes to beat the balanced budget?

**The President.** I don't know. We've got a record that ought to defeat it. I mean, the problem with the amendment if you read it is, on its terms, if it's carried out, it will require either a large tax increase or big cuts in defense and domestic programs critical to our job growth or both. And if it's ignored, it will—by ignoring it, that is if you say, "Well, we can't do this; we're going to suspend it," then you put the whole future of the country in the hands of the 40 percent plus one vote in both Houses of Congress. And I don't think that's a very good thing.

Under the plan we're now following, if the Congress adopts this budget with its spending limits, we'll have the first 3 years since the Truman Presidency a declining deficit. We're moving in the right direction. I think that's very important. So I hope that the Sen-

ate will not adopt it. I know it's politically popular, but I don't think it's good policy.

And I'd like to point out for the point of view of the American people who say, "Well, State and local governments do it," all State and local governments make sharp distinctions between long-term capital investments and current expenditures. And this balanced budget amendment makes absolutely no distinction. So it would be far more severe than State and local balanced budget laws and with a very uncertain economic impact. So I'm hoping the Senate will reject it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:21 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### **Remarks Welcoming the Super Bowl Champion Dallas Cowboys**

*March 1, 1994*

I'm glad to be here with the people who are negotiating my next year's salary. [*Laughter*]

Ladies and gentlemen, it's a great honor for all of us at the White House to have the Dallas Cowboys back here for a second year in a row. Coach Johnson, your team has a knack for coming to the White House.

I said they were negotiating my next year's salary. I really—until you hired Bernie Kosar, I sort of wanted to be the backup quarterback. [*Laughter*] I'm the right height.

I want to congratulate Troy Aikman and Emmitt Smith and Russell Maryland and Michael Irvin for being selected to the Pro Bowl and for their brilliant play.

I also want to say that I really identify with the season the Cowboys had this year. They lost their first two games; they were even behind in the Super Bowl, but they kept coming back. Now the decade is not even half over, and they've already won two Super Bowls. There's no telling what this team can do. It's young. It's aggressive. It has a good attitude. It has great leadership.

And I have to say, a little bit of parochial pride on behalf of my State, that I'm really proud of the work that Jerry Jones has done with the Cowboys in such a few years and proud of the remarkable achievements this

team has already seen. I think that it is just the beginning of what will doubtless be years and years and years of stunning achievement if they can just keep their goals high and keep working for them.

It's a great honor to have them here and I'd like to invite them to say a few words. Who's going first? Jerry?

Let's give them a hand.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:53 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dallas Cowboys coach Jimmy Johnson and owner Jerry Jones.

### **Proclamation 6651—National Poison Prevention Week, 1994**

*March 1, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Keeping families healthy is an integral part of strengthening our Nation's future. It is the cornerstone in America's efforts to provide security for every one of our citizens. Yet, in this great Nation of wisdom and unparalleled potential, the American Association of Poison Control Centers estimates that almost one million American children are exposed to potentially poisonous medicines and household chemicals each year. This single statistic is appalling, but it is also correctable, for we are certain in the knowledge that accidental poisonings are preventable. This week, we recognize that it is one of our duties as a society to do everything in our power to prevent injuries and deaths caused by poisoning.

As the United States observes the 33rd National Poison Prevention Week, we are able to celebrate some small, but significant, triumphs. That the number of childhood deaths from poisoning annually has declined from 450 to 49 over the past thirty years is a testament to the dedicated efforts of countless citizens actively involved with poison control programs across the country. National requirements of child-resistant packaging for medicines have helped to limit dangerous exposure. Poison control centers, pharmacies, and public health centers have worked to-

gether to distribute vital information regarding poison prevention to our families and communities, and these measures have, indeed, saved lives.

If we are to end the tragedy of childhood poisonings once and for all, we must continually remind ourselves to take the basic steps necessary to prevent this occurrence in our own homes. Safety measures, such as using child-resistant packaging correctly and keeping potentially harmful substances out of children's reach, can mean the difference between health and injury, between life and death. During this week, we must seek to educate ourselves and others about all the ways we can work to avoid this kind of senseless loss. America's parents must take primary responsibility for this effort. Our Nation's children deserve no less.

To encourage the American people to learn more about the dangers of accidental poisonings and to take more preventive measures, the Congress, by joint resolution approved September 26, 1961 (75 Stat. 681), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week of March of each year as "National Poison Prevention Week."

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 20, 1994, as National Poison Prevention Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week by participating in appropriate ceremonies and activities and by learning how to prevent accidental poisonings among children.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

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