

changes in the environment, improve seasonal drought predictions, and help to assess the impact of climate change. We can and we must work together to realize the promise of Kyoto.

A generation ago, our leaders began to realize this would become an issue we would all have to face. President Kennedy said, "It is our task to hand undiminished to those who come after us the natural wealth and beauty which is ours." In other words, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours is not really ours. It belongs to the people who came before us, who live on in our memory, and to our children and grandchildren and their grandchildren which will come after.

In the United States, many of our Native American population say that they manage their own natural resources with seven generations in view. They think, in other words, about how today's decisions will affect their children seven generations down the line. We can at least think of our grandchildren. We have a serious responsibility to deal with poor people in a respectful way the world over because everyone deserves the right to try to advance his or her material condition so that all of our children can have decent lives and get decent education and build a decent future.

But we know from the scientific data available to us today that we can grow the economy at a rate that sustains both economic well-being and our natural resources. Indeed, we know that if we maximize the use of scientific technology and knowledge, we can grow the economy and even improve the condition of the natural environment.

That is our responsibility. It has come to our generation to make these decisions now so that future generations will enjoy all the wonderful technological advances of the 21st century. But first, we must act, and we must do it together.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:45 p.m. at the Mokolodi Nature Preserve. In his remarks, he referred to the following Botswana Government officials: Minister of Commerce & Industry George Kgoroba; Vice President Festus Mogae; Minister of Foreign Affairs Mompoti Merahfe; Permanent Secretary at the Department of Foreign Affairs Ernest Mpofo; Ambassador to the U.S. Archibald

Mogwe; President Ketumile Masire; and former Defense Force Commander Ian Khama, currently Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration. The President also referred to U.S. Ambassador Robert Krueger and his wife, Kathleen. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Death of Bella Abzug

March 31, 1998

Hillary and I are deeply saddened to learn of the death of former Congresswoman Bella Abzug.

Bella Abzug was a great American and a true citizen of the world. Her conscience, intellect, and political acumen made an immeasurable contribution to our public life. She raised her passionate and tireless voice demanding the best for women, for all Americans, and indeed, for people all around the world. She will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

Proclamation 7075—Cancer Control Month, 1998

March 31, 1998

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

While cancer still casts a shadow over the lives of millions of Americans and their families, we can rightfully look back over the 1990s as the decade in which we measurably began to turn the tide against this deadly disease. From 1990 to 1995, the annual number of new cancer cases for every 100,000 Americans dropped slightly but continuously. Perhaps more important, the overall cancer death rate, which rose through the 1970s and 1980s, declined between 1991 and 1995, a trend that continues today and that we hope will be sustained into the next century. Thanks to years of dedicated, rigorous scientific study, people with cancer are now leading longer, healthier lives. More than eight million Americans living today have had cancer at some time, and these survivors are