

great in the next decade. And all these countries had to—they worked on us for a long time before—you know, telling us we had to do something about the deficit.

But I just hope that they will—I wish that they had the confidence in themselves right now that I have in them. I wish that they believed that they could make this sort of leap into the 21st century economy and still be able to maintain their social fabric. And I think eventually they'll do it because I don't think they want to fail. I think they want to succeed. And you can't blame them for playing out these two tried and true strains of economic recovery, on the deficit spending and on the low interest rates, before getting to—because that was easier to do than to deal with the underlying structural issues. And I think eventually they'll do that.

I mean, look at the pain that was caused in America in the 1980's when all the industries had to be restructured and all the—the whole economy was topsy-turvy, and there was a lot of difficulty there for people. And countries don't willingly absorb that kind of short-term pain, even though they know the long-term gain is out there.

So I just think that—but I think they'll get to it. They'll have to. And I think they will, and I think we just need to stick with them, keep encouraging them, keep supporting the right kind of change.

Q. Thank you very much.

The President. It's an interesting time to be alive, gentlemen. Don't you think?

NOTE: The interview began at 5:36 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, the President referred to Francis S. Collins, Director, National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health; former Senator Lloyd Bentsen; and Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi of Japan. An interviewer referred to Eric Lander, director, Whitehead/MIT Center for Genome Research. Participating in the interview were George Hager of USA Today, Peter Gosselin of the Los Angeles Times, and Naftali Bendavid of the Chicago Tribune. This interview was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 11. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

**Memorandum on United States
Military Activities in East Timor**
February 10, 2000

Presidential Determination No. 2000-12

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: United States Military Activities in East Timor

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as President, including under sections 10(d)(1) and 10(a)(2)(B) of the United Nations Participation Act of 1945, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287 et seq.) (the "Act"), I hereby:

- (a) determine that the deployment of United States military forces to support East Timor's transition to independence without reimbursement from the United Nations is important to the security interests of the United States; and
- (b) delegate to you the authority contained in section 10(d)(1) of the Act with respect to assistance to support East Timor's transition to independence that is covered by section 10 of the Act. You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This Presidential determination was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 11.

**Remarks on the Dedication of the
James S. Brady Press Briefing Room
and an Exchange With Reporters**
February 11, 2000

The President. It's the first time Joe Lockhart's ever introduced me, I think. [Laughter]

Press Secretary Joe Lockhart. Probably the last.

The President. I thought the last phrase was going to be, "and the man who makes my job somewhere between impossible and miserable every day." [Laughter]

Well, ladies and gentlemen, this is a happy day for all of us, and, I believe, for people