

note—I was listening to your questions, wonderful questions, to Marlin about my property taxes. [Laughter] And I asked Burt, and he said he'd rather wait until he talks to the other doctors. But he came in with a very good report about the thyroid now being in balance.

Q. Is it gone?

The President. Well, I don't know. It's not gone. I'd better keep a little of it because you don't want to get those hormones out of shape, you know what I mean? [Laughter]

Q. No, I haven't the slightest idea. [Laughter]

Q. How much weight have you lost? Five pounds, more, eight?

The President. No, about 10.

Q. Ten pounds?

The President. Yes.

Q. Over how long a time?

Q. How long?

The President. Over about a 3-week period.

Q. Are you happy?

The President. Yes. Yes, I'd like to keep it off.

Q. What are you, 190 now, Mr. President?

The President. Help. Here she comes. [Laughter] No, 187 last night.

Q. That's the lowest you've been in how many years?

The President. Lowest I've been in 30 years.

Queen Elizabeth's Visit

Q. How did you like the Queen?

The President. Very, very impressive; an engaging conversationalist and most impressive. I do feel badly—

Q. Why didn't you raise the podium?

The President. Well, I feel badly I didn't. And I thought about it and—but she started to speak. And I didn't realize how it would look from a straight angle, or I would have interrupted her because it wasn't fair to her. And I'm just sorry that it was overlooked.

Grandchild's Birthday Party

Mrs. Bush. You've got the birthday party.

The President. We've got to go see the birthday party.

Q. Whose birthday is it?

The President. Marshall's. Marshall.

Q. Are you allowed to kiss her?

The President. No, I can't. Bar can.

Queen Elizabeth's Visit

Q. He's apologizing for not pulling the step out for the Queen, Mrs. Bush.

Mrs. Bush. He doesn't need to apologize.

The President. I kicked it over to the—

Mrs. Bush. It was someone else's job—come on. [Laughter]

The President. See, we've got our line together.

Note: The session began at 1:50 p.m. on the South Lawn of the White House. In his responses, President Bush referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; President Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union; Marlin Fitzwater, Press Secretary to the President; Joseph Verner Reed, Chief of Protocol; Burton J. Lee III, Physician to the President; Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom; and Marshall Bush, President Bush's granddaughter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this session.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the President's Meeting With Prime Minister Michael Manley of Jamaica

May 15, 1991

The President met today with Prime Minister Michael Manley of Jamaica, who is in the United States on a private visit. The two leaders discussed bilateral and regional

issues, including economic cooperation, antinarcotics measures, and Caribbean economic integration. The President and the Prime Minister last met in May 1990, in the

Oval Office.

The President commended the Prime Minister for his courageous leadership in pursuing an economic reform program, including deregulation, privatization, and monetary policies. Both leaders expressed their conviction that these measures are key to future investment and economic growth in Jamaica.

The President thanked the Prime Minister for his strong endorsement of the free-trade agreement with Mexico and the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI). Prime Minister Manley briefed the President on the CARICOM [Caribbean Community] proposal for a multilateral trade and investment framework agreement with

the United States, which is currently being negotiated by the U.S. Government and CARICOM. The President is encouraged by the efforts of the Caribbean nations to move toward greater integration. The President noted that Jamaica has played a constructive role in encouraging the participation of CARICOM members in the process of trade and investment liberalization through the EAI.

The President noted that Prime Minister Manley has been a forceful proponent of democracy and human rights, and he expressed satisfaction with Jamaica's role in furthering democracy in the Caribbean region.

Nomination of Morris D. Busby To Be United States Ambassador to Colombia

May 15, 1991

The President announced his intention to nominate Morris D. Busby, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Colombia. He would succeed Thomas Edmund McNamara.

Since 1989 Ambassador Busby has served as coordinator for counterterrorism with the rank of Ambassador at the Department of State in Washington, DC. Prior to this, he served at the Department of State as a special envoy for Central America, 1988–1989; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, 1987–1988; and Director of the Nicaraguan Coordination Office, 1987. Ambassador Busby served as deputy chief of mission at the United States Embassy in Mexico City,

Mexico, 1984–1987; and as an Alternate United States Representative to the Committee on Disarmament at the United States mission in Geneva, Switzerland, 1981–1984. In addition, he served at the Department of State as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries with the rank of Ambassador, 1980–1981, and Director of the Office of Oceans and Polar Affairs, 1975–1980.

Ambassador Busby graduated from Marshall University (A.B., 1960) and George Washington University (M.S., 1971). He was born March 15, 1938, in Memphis, TN. Ambassador Busby served in the United States Navy, 1960–1975. Ambassador Busby is married, has two children, and resides in Arlington, VA.

Nomination of Johnnie Carson To Be United States Ambassador to Uganda

May 15, 1991

The President announced his intention to nominate Johnnie Carson, of Illinois, to be

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the