

Mar. 11 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1993

for someone in the Justice Department for a while now.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:15 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House.

## Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues

March 11, 1993

### *Abortion Clinic Shooting*

Q. Mr. President, do you have any reaction to the shooting of Dr. Gunn in Pensacola?

*The President.* Yes. I was outraged by it. We have got to create a climate in this country where people do not think that is acceptable. And I think that's—how could someone have thought that they could take civil disobedience and carry it one extra step? Dr. Gunn was exercising his constitutional rights. And what happened was awful.

### *President Boris Yeltsin of Russia*

Q. [Inaudible]—Yeltsin apparently had informed you that he plans to dissolve or may

have to dissolve the Parliament. Have you gotten word of that, and what's your reaction to it?

*The President.* I have had no communication from him today, or if it has, it hasn't been communicated to——

Q. Thank you.

### *Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany*

Q. How about Mr. Kohl? Has Mr. Kohl called you about a summit?

*The President.* If he has, no one on my staff has told me he's called me today.

NOTE: The exchange began at 5:35 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

## Statement on the Death of Dr. David Gunn

March 11, 1993

I was saddened and angered by the fatal shooting in Pensacola yesterday of Dr. David Gunn. The violence against clinics must stop. As a nation committed to rule of law, we cannot allow violent vigilantes to restrict the rights of

American women. No person seeking medical care and no physician providing that care should have to endure harassment, threats, or intimidation.

## Statement on Joint Production Venture Legislation

March 11, 1993

I want to commend Chairman Jack Brooks, Senator Pat Leahy, Chairman Joe Biden, and the bipartisan leadership of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees on the introduction today of an important new bill to help create jobs and build a more competitive, high-tech American economy. This bill, the National Cooperative Production Amendments of 1993, will

pave the way for companies large and small to pool their resources and talents in new joint production ventures. It is just the kind of forward-thinking initiative we need to drive our economy toward a decade of creative change.

We live in a world in which our competitive advantage flows more and more from our command of high technology, but in which the de-

velopment and production of high-tech products has become enormously expensive. It is altogether appropriate to lift the legal barriers that prevent good companies from playing to win in the global market, provided, of course, that our antitrust laws continue to prevent improper collusion. Now is the time, as we work together

to turn this Nation in a new direction, to strip away outdated impediments to our growth and potential.

I look forward to working with Chairman Brooks, Chairman Biden, Senator Leahy, and their colleagues on this important legislation.

## Announcement of the Continuation of Foreign Service Officers in Three State Department Posts

*March 11, 1993*

The President announced today that three career Foreign Service officers will continue serving in State Department positions that they currently hold. The three are Genta Hawkins Holmes, Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Personnel, Robert Gallucci, Assistant Secretary for Politico-Military Affairs, and Anthony Quainton, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

"I am very pleased with the team that Secretary Christopher and I are assembling at the Department of State," said the President. "I am particularly gratified that we have been able to put a number of people into senior positions who have devoted their careers to the Foreign Service."

NOTE: Biographies were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

## Remarks on the Swearing-In of Attorney General Janet Reno

*March 12, 1993*

Thank you very much. Please be seated. We are honored here in the White House to be joined today by distinguished Members of the Senate and the House: Senator Biden, Senator Hatch, Senator Kennedy, Senator Sarbanes, one of Janet Reno's Senators, Senator Connie Mack. Senator Graham called me last night. He's in Florida today with the First Lady at a health care hearing. And he said he had an excused absence from the Attorney General. *[Laughter]*

The Speaker and Congressman Edwards are here, and we're delighted to see all of them. I also would say we're delighted to be joined by Mr. Justice White and Mrs. White. Thank you very much for coming. Let me say that it is a great honor for me to be able to be here at this ceremony today with Janet Reno, her family, and a few of her many friends.

I'd like to say a special word of thanks to Stuart Gerson, who has served ably and honorably as Acting Attorney General since the Inau-

guration. I think we owe him a round of applause. *[Applause]*

Somehow I don't think any of my other proposals will pass the Senate by the same vote margin—*[laughter]*—that Janet's confirmation did. I especially want to thank Senator Biden and Senator Hatch and the members of the Judiciary Committee for waiving the normal waiting period between hearings and the confirmation vote, making this event possible today and making it possible for us to proceed immediately with the urgent tasks at hand.

But more than anything else, I think it is clear that Janet Reno made her own swift confirmation possible, showing the Senate and all who followed the hearings the qualities of leadership and integrity, intelligence, and humanity that those gathered in this room have recognized for a very long time.

You shared with us the life-shaping stories of your family and career that formed your deep