

(a) Each Federal agency shall, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, seek to increase the quantity of excess wholesome food recovered and delivered to needy Americans from agency cafeterias, commissaries, food vendors, and other food service facilities, as well as from special events at which food is served.

(b) Each Federal agency shall seek to encourage food recovery among its contractors, subcontractors, State, local, and non-governmental partners, and grantees to ensure that they understand its importance and role in feeding needy individuals.

(c) Whenever consistent with the goals of each Federal agency's mission and programs, each agency shall incorporate food recovery activities into those programs.

Sec. 3. Organization.

(a) There is hereby established for 5 years the interagency working group on Food Recovery to Help the Hungry charged with carrying out the policy of this memorandum and assisting agencies in complying with its purpose. The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee, shall chair this working group. The working group shall comprise the heads of all Federal agencies or their designees.

(b) The head of each Federal agency, as appropriate, shall appoint an employee as that agency's food recovery coordinator.

Sec. 4. Agency Authority. Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed as displacing any agency's authority or responsibilities.

Sec. 5. Judicial Review. This directive is intended only to improve the internal management of the Federal Government and is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its offices, or any person.

William J. Clinton

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Jiang Zemin of China in Manila, Philippines

November 24, 1996

Q. Mr. President, you promised to raise some candid differences. What differences do you want to raise?

The President. [*Inaudible*—four good meetings, we're going to have another one. Then we'll have a report.

Q. Human Rights Watch says you're making a mistake by holding the meeting. Are you?

The President. No, we're doing the right thing to have this meeting.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:35 a.m. in the Central Bank. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan in Manila

November 24, 1996

Discussions With President Jiang Zemin of China

Q. Could you give us your assessment of your meeting with the Chinese leader?

The President. Well, I'm sure you've gotten a report. I think it went very well. It was a good meeting, and I think that the next steps were appropriate.

Q. You're looking forward, then, to going to Beijing?

The President. Very much.

Discussions With Prime Minister Hashimoto

Q. Mr. Prime Minister, the last time you met with Mr. Clinton, you gave him a saxophone. What are you going to do this time to make him happy? [*Laughter*]

The President. And I played it, too.

Prime Minister Hashimoto. What should I do about that? I think you're giving me more difficult questions than you're giving to the President. Well, it's a diplomatic secret. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:58 p.m. at the Central Bank. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks to the Community at the United States Embassy in Manila
November 24, 1996

Thank you, Mr. Ambassador. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you to my fellow Americans and our Filipino friends who make this Embassy run so well.

I'd like to begin with a special word of thanks to Ambassador Hubbard, not only for his introduction but for his extraordinary service to our Nation. Before coming to Manila, he was a key member of a team that persuaded the North Koreans to freeze their nuclear program. He was instrumental in securing the release of an American pilot named Bobby Hall. In those ways and many others he has made a real difference for the safety and the security of the United States, the stability of Asia, and the future of this part of the world. So, Mr. Ambassador, on behalf of all Americans, I want to thank you for the extraordinary job you have done for America in so many different roles. Thank you, sir.

This is my second trip to the Philippines as President, and each time, though the visit is brief, I have enjoyed myself immensely and I come away very grateful for your hard work and the role you played in the success of our trip here.

I came to Manila to participate in the APEC summit, to build on the work we began 3 years ago at the first-ever meeting of the Asian-Pacific leaders in Washington State. Each year we have worked hard to move from vision to action, with members laying out concrete plans to realize our goal of free trade and investment in this whole area by the year 2020. I'm especially pleased that today the APEC leaders endorsed the early completion of an information technology agreement which would cut to zero

tariffs a vast array of computers, semiconductors, and telecommunications technology by the year 2000. These products are to the 21st century what highways and railroads were to the 19th century. Or in my recent language, they are a big part of that bridge we have to build to the future. They are at the core of America's competitiveness.

Every year we sell \$100 billion in information technology, and that sector supports almost 2 million jobs in the United States. So imagine if we went to zero tariffs in the entire world, what that would mean to America in more exports and higher paying jobs. Imagine also what it would mean not only to our Nation and others who produce these products but to those who would receive them.

In this global economy, you know as well as anyone that progress is not everyone's partner yet. I have been immensely pleased to see the rapid growth in the Philippine economy over the last 4 years under the leadership of President Ramos. And I am very encouraged about the direction of virtually every place in the Asia-Pacific region. But there are millions of people—indeed, hundreds of millions of people—who are literally disconnected from this emerging economy because they don't have phones or computers or access to all the networks that now are powering so much of the transfer of knowledge and opportunity in the world. Two-thirds of the people in the world still don't have access to a regular phone. Over half the people living today still are 2 days' walk from a telephone. There's a lot of opportunity out there, not only for those of us who produce these products but for those who will buy them and use them. For them it means higher growth, greater security, and a brighter future for their children.

APEC's endorsement of this information technology agreement is a big deal. And it is a product of determined, consistent diplomacy, the kind you practice here every single day, from commercial promotion to consular work to the bonds of friendship and respect you build with our Filipino partners.

In this season of Thanksgiving I really wanted to take just a few minutes to tell you how profoundly grateful I am for all the work you do. Your efforts may not always make the headlines, but I know how hard you work,