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So as families come together to celebrate Easter and Passover, as parents reunite with their children, their brothers and sisters, and friends with each other, let us all take time to search our souls. Let us find the strength to reach across the lines that divide us on the surface and touch the common spirit that resides in every human heart.

And let us also remember there are some Americans who feel isolated from all of the rest of us in other ways, sometimes with truly tragic consequences like the events just outside San Diego, which have so stunned us all this week. Our prayers are with their families as well.

In this season of reflection, we must find kinship in our common humanity. In this season of renewal, we must renew our pledge to make America one nation under God. In this season of redemption, we must all rise up above our differences to walk forward together on common ground, toward common dreams.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 11:50 a.m. on March 28 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on March 29.

Remarks at the White House Easter Egg Roll

March 31, 1997

Good morning. Let me say, first of all, it's getting warmer. [*Laughter*] And I want to thank all the sponsors who make this possible this year and the more than 500 volunteers. A lot of them worked here all weekend. I went down and visited with them. Let's give them all a big hand. [*Applause*] Thank you very much.

This is the 119th year we've had the White House Easter egg roll, and every year it gets a little better, I think, and a little different. We've worked hard to make this a good time not only for children but for their parents and family members, so that we could have fun together and we could learn together.

There is a Learn Big Things tent, which I hope you'll all visit. For many of the young people, it will give them a first chance to log on to the Internet or even to visit our White House homepage. There is a Learning Adventures tent where children can learn to use CD–ROM's and learn about things like nutrition. Then there is the opportunity to do Easter egg painting and to listen to storytelling.

And I want to thank all the people who have been willing to be part of this, especially one of our special guests today who is down here with us along with two of her four children, Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman, Jane Seymour. Thank you, Jane, for coming. We're glad to have you here.

And now, are they ready over there at the Easter egg roll? Are you all ready? Now, you can't start until I blow the whistle. On your mark—are you ready? Come on, line up. Shape up here. One of us needs to be able to run. [*Laughter*] On your mark, get set, go.

[*At this point, the President blew the whistle to start the egg roll.*]

Thank you, and God bless you. Happy Easter.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:20 a.m. from the South Portico Balcony at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to actress Jane Seymour.

Remarks on Action To Protect Pension Programs

March 31, 1997

Thank you very much, Marian Jones, for that fine introduction. Acting Secretary Metzler, Secretary Daley, thank you for your good work at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

I'd like to welcome Congressman Pomeroy and former Congressman Jake Pickle, from Texas, who had so much to do with the success of our administration's endeavors in this area; AFL–CIO President John Sweeney; the Acting Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, John Seal; Olena Berg, from the Department of Labor. And I'd also like to thank all the other members of the Department of Labor who are here today for the work that you have done in this and in so many other areas. And I'd like to acknowledge that we have two Department of Labor alumni, at least two, at least—maybe three—