

this powerful personal statement during the trial. I regret that it continues to be restricted from public viewing.

In order to be sure that the transcript that is being made a part of the public trial record is readily available to the public, I ask unanimous consent that the following portion of the written transcript of the deposition of Vernon Jordan, that containing his statement of integrity heretofore suppressed, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

The WITNESS. Mr. Chairman, may I be just permitted a moment of personal privilege? I don't know about the rules here, but uh, I'd like to say something if you would permit.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Chairman—

Senator THOMPSON. Well, Mr. Jordan, quite frankly, it depends on what the subject matter is and what you'd like—

The WITNESS. Well, it won't be a declaration of war. [Laughter.]

Senator THOMPSON. Counsel, did you have—

Mr. HUTCHINSON. I would reserve the objection. I think that's permissible under the rules. So I would state my objection, let him answer it, and if—we can debate that if it becomes an issue in the Senate. I'd like to reserve the objection.

Senator THOMPSON. All right.

The WITNESS. It's just something I want you, Mr. Hutchinson, and the House Managers to understand about Vernon Jordan. And that is, you know, it's a very long way from the first public housing project in this country for black people, where I grew up. It's a long way from there to a corner office at Akin Gump. It's a long way from University Homes to the corporate board rooms of America. It's a long way from University Homes to the Oval Office. And I have made that journey understanding one thing, and that is that the only thing I have in this world that belongs to me is fee simple absolute, completely and totally, is my integrity.

My corner office at Akin Gump is at best tenuous. My house, my home, is at best tenuous. My bank account, my stocks and my bonds, they are ultimately of no moment.

But what matters most to me, and what was taught to me by my mother, is that the only thing that I own totally and completely is my integrity. And my integrity has been on trial here, and I want to tell you that nothing is more important to me than that.

The President is my friend. He was before this happened, he is now, and he will be when this is over. But he is not a friend in that I have no friends for whom I would sacrifice my integrity. And I want you to understand that.

Senator THOMPSON. Thank you, Mr. Jordan.

If there is no further question, then this deposition is completed, and we stand adjourned.

The WITNESS. Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT CONCERNING A WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG ALLIANCE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 9

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to provide the attached report on a Western Hemisphere Drug Alliance in accordance with the provisions of section 2807 of the "Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998." This report underscores the Administration's commitment to enhancing multilateral counternarcotics cooperation in the region.

Strengthening international narcotics control is one of my Administration's top foreign policy priorities. Because of the transnational nature of the Western Hemisphere drug trafficking threat, we have made enhanced multilateral cooperation a central feature of our regional drug control strategy. Our counternarcotics diplomacy, foreign assistance, and operations have focused increasingly on making this objective a reality.

We are succeeding. Thanks to U.S. leadership in the Summit of the Americas, the Organization of American States, and other regional fora, the countries of the Western Hemisphere are taking the drug threat more seriously and responding more aggressively. South American cocaine organizations that were once regarded as among the largest and most violent crime syndicates in the world have been dismantled, and the level of coca cultivation is now plummeting as fast as it was once sky-rocketing. We are also currently working through the Organization of American States to create a counternarcotics multilateral evaluation mechanism in the hemisphere. These examples reflect fundamental narcotics control progress that was nearly unimaginable a few years ago.

While much remains to be done, I am confident that the Administration and the Congress, working together, can bolster cooperation in the hemisphere, accelerate this progress, and significantly diminish the drug threat to the American people. I look forward to your continued support and cooperation in this critical area.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 23, 1999.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:24 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the

following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 350. An act to improve congressional deliberation on proposed Federal private sector mandates, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1864. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Secretary's report on the retention of members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1865. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Independent Research and Development and Bid and Proposal Costs for Fiscal Year 1996 and Beyond" (Case 95-D040) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1866. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Deviations from Cost Accounting Standards Administration Requirements" (Case 97-D016) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1867. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Television-Audio Support Activity" (Case 98-D008) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1868. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Specifications and Standards Requisition" (Case 98-D022) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1869. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Flexible Progress Payments" (Case 98-D400) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1870. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; People's Republic of China" (Case 98-D305) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1871. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Singapore Accession to Government Procurement Agreement" (Case 98-D029) received on February 16, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.