

## Bush says he has 'respect' for Gingrich

*The "irrationalism-thing" frequently displayed by former President George Bush while in office seems not to have abated despite his nearly two and a half years in retirement. Readers familiar with George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography, by Webster Tarpley and Anton Chaitkin and published by EIR in 1992, may recall the concluding chapter, "Thyroid Storm," in which conclusive evidence of Bush's rage-obsessed personality disorder was presented. We provide the following excerpts from a transcript provided by Federal News Service of the NBC "Today" show on June 13, so that our readers may consider the latest available evidence. Bush used his first network-television interview since leaving the White House (given to NBC's Jamie Gangel) to endorse House Speaker Newt Gingrich's (R-Ga.) British oligarchy-spawned fascist agenda.*

**Gangel:** . . . There was one ground rule. If you want to talk, you have to do whatever he does.

**Bush:** All right, you watch and learn, Jamie.

**Gangel:** If you can keep up and don't mind getting wet.

**Bush:** [Jumps into pool.] You'd think that was Arnold Schwarzenegger. Come on. You—you can't go against your word—in.

**Gangel:** [Jumps into pool.] It's freezing cold. So we started our conversation bass fishing in the pouring rain.

**Bush:** Uh-oh—got him. Little guy. Just so it can be said that I didn't strike out, we got him. You guys, don't record the size of this fish, please.

Where were we on life its own self, Jamie?

**Gangel:** Don't you miss Washington?

**Bush:** [Laughs.] I don't. I honestly . . . I miss some things about it. . . .

**Gangel:** What do you miss?

**Bush:** . . . I miss dealing with the military—great. . . . I find myself talking to the television like Bubba, Bubba's father, that Dan Jenkins, my great friend, wrote about. Bubba's father would come home and he'd plunk a TV dinner down in front and he'd say, "Go ahead. Go on. You don't like it here? Go someplace else." He'd sit in there and say, "Look at that silly-looking woman telling us again what we think." I mean, I find myself doing that, but I don't—

**Gangel:** You yell back at the TV.

**Bush:** Well, kind of turn it off in anger or say, "Oh, listen to this stuff. That's crazy." But then I don't talk about it. I don't go out and try to do something about it or lead a crusade about it. I've done that. And I have opinions.

**Gangel:** Do you speak . . . with President Clinton?

**Bush:** No. Nor should I. I mean, people say, "Well, doesn't he call you?" Well, you don't call your predecessors. It just doesn't work that way. . . . But—watch it. You're right in the line of the fish that's sitting over there. . . .

**Gangel:** Why did you speak out [about the National Rifle Association]?

**Bush:** Well, it offended my sense of honor. And to me, honor is important, my sense of decency, and because I have great respect—whoops; did I get a bite?—great respect for the law enforcement community. . . . And so there's one that I felt very strongly about. But it's an exception that proves the rule—an exception.

**Gangel:** And when I say to you Bosnia, you say?

**Bush:** I say go talk to my sons about that. You could say Rwanda or you could say the former Soviet Union or you could say China or you could say a lot of areas that interest me. And you see I think we've got a lot of elected, able loyal-opposition people that are doing a very good job presenting alternatives.

And—I put that right on that fish's head there. And I just—I don't know. I've always felt funny about somebody always wants to still be something when he's not. Why try to horn in, as mother would say if she were here watching her little boy fish like she used to do right on this very river.

**Gangel:** Bush appears to have become more philosophical, and he certainly has recovered his sense of humor. . . . These days, Bush is finishing up a book on foreign policy with his former national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft. . . . Comfortable with Newt Gingrich?

**Bush:** Yeah. I've got a lot of respect for Newt. We used to have some differences with him. He can tell you about those. But I don't point out the differences. I point out the fact that he said he was going to do something and did it. Therein lies something rather unique in politics these days. And I salute him and I support him and I think that the change he's trying to bring about is good for everybody. But any time you take on special interests, you'd better put on the flak jacket and button [sic] down the hatches. I found that out.

**Gangel:** How do you feel about Ross Perot?

**Bush:** I don't discuss my feelings about him. That's the answer. There's nothing personal as far as I'm concerned. But if I were asked, you know, if I were in the arena, "Would you go trooping down to pay homage to Ross Perot again?" I'd say no. Burn me once, but not twice.