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**Clinton salutes FDR,
claims his legacy**

□ The President noted similarities between Roosevelt and himself.

WARM SPRINGS, Ga. (AP) — Celebrating the legacy of Franklin D. Roosevelt at his "Little White House," President Clinton said Wednesday that FDR would have been on his side in fighting efforts to cut aid for the needy or retreat from America's obligations abroad.

Marking the 50th anniversary of Roosevelt's death, Clinton said the key to raising Americans' stagnant wages is through education. He warned Republicans he will not sign any tax-cut bill unless it helps pay the costs of education.

"Education is the fault line in America today," Clinton said in his most direct statement yet on what he'll demand in a tax bill. "Those who have it are doing well in the global economy. Those who don't are not doing well."

Clinton spoke in front of the white clapboard cottage in Warm Springs, where Roosevelt sought relief from the paralysis of polio and where, on April 12, 1945, he died of a cerebral hemorrhage at age 63.

"He led us from the depths of economic despair through a Depression, to victory in the war, to the threshold of the promise of the postwar America he unfolded."

It was Clinton's first trip to Warm Springs, and he said he'd always wanted to visit the memorial to one of America's greatest political leaders. "My grandfather thought he was going to go to Roosevelt when he died," the president told reporters on Air Force One.

Framed by the white pillars on the front porch of Roosevelt's Little White House, Clinton said FDR would have welcomed the debate about the role of government, in which many Republicans are trying to dismantle the liberal foundation that he laid.

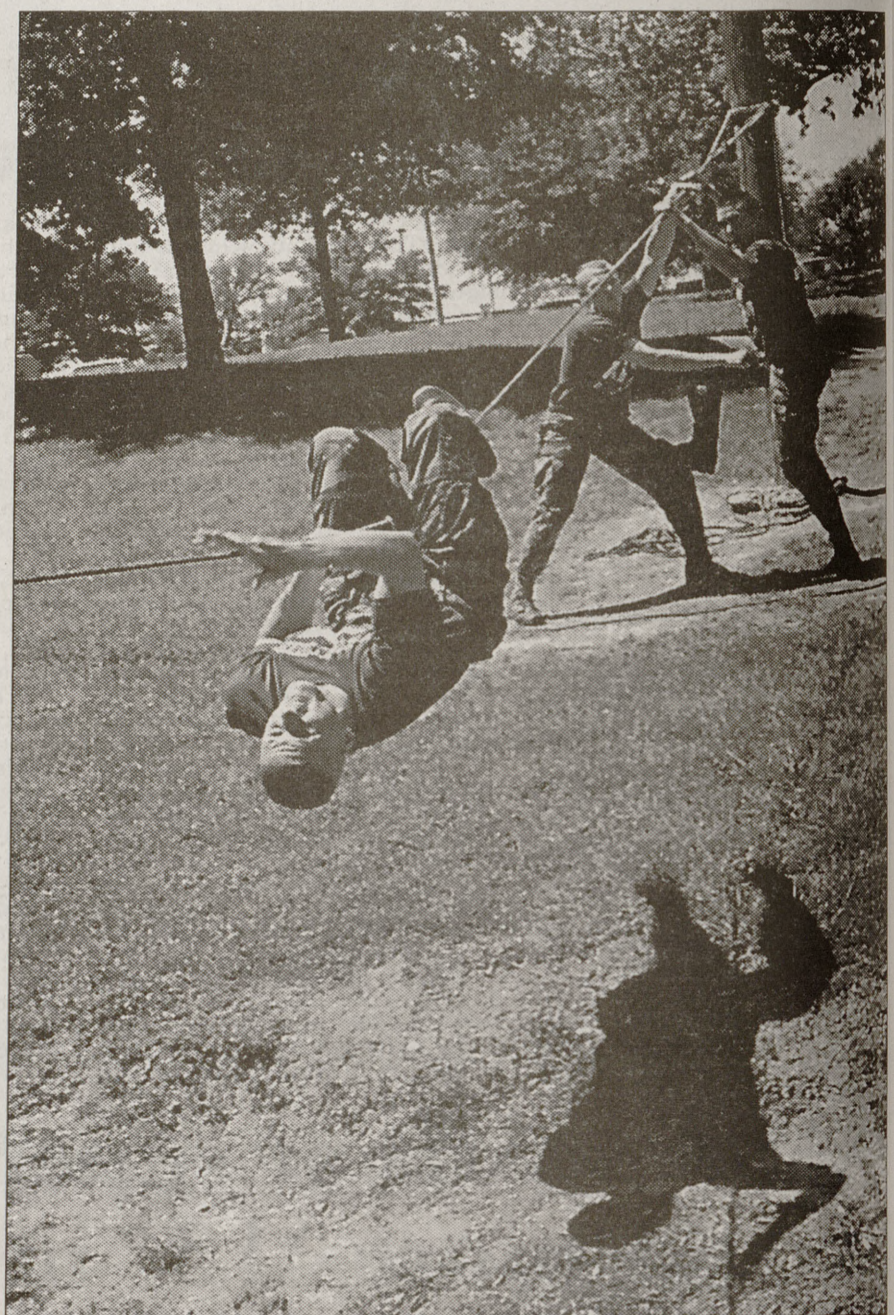
"And so I believe if President Roosevelt were here, he would say, 'Let's have a great old-fashioned debate about the role of government and let's make it less bureaucratic and more flexible,'" Clinton said.

He said Roosevelt would say, 'Let's put a sense of independence back into our welfare system.' But he would also say, 'Let's not forget that what really works in life is when people get a hand up, not a handout; when Americans go up or down together.'"

Clinton worried that if Roosevelt were alive today, "he would see, indeed, a country encrusted with cynicism. He would see an insensitivity on the part of people who say, 'Well, I made it, and why should I help anyone else...'"

"That was not Franklin Roosevelt. He was not cynical, he was not angry, he was not insensitive, he did not believe in division and he certainly was not confused."

Noting the tax-cut fever in Washington, Clinton said, "We have to worry about how much and who gets it and what for: We should not do it if we have to cut education. We should not do it if we have to explode the deficit."



Amy Browning/The Battalion

Sideways to the top

Aggie Rangers Chris Pawlak, a member of company K-1, Mike Reber, a member of company F-2 and Anthony Krenz, a member of company I-1 practice scaling a rope bridge at Spence park Wednesday afternoon.

Republicans call for investigation into TEC

□ The Texas GOP claims that state money has been used to criticize the political party.

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas House Republican leaders Wednesday called for an investigation into whether state Employment Commissioner Jackie St. Clair illegally used tax money to publish a newsletter critical of the new Republican Congress.

The House GOP Caucus wants Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle to investigate the matter.

"It's our contention, after

looking at this, that this is paid for by state funds to do a political hatchet job on the Republican Party," caucus Chairman Tom Craddick, R-Midland, said. "I think this is an illegal use of state funds."

St. Clair, a Democrat appointed by former Gov. Ann Richards as the commission's labor representative, responded that he is simply doing his job by publishing a newsletter that targets the interests of his constituency.

"I don't feel it's improper; I think it's my duty," he said. "If I thought I was being improper, I sure wouldn't have done it. All I want to do is what my job says, and I thought that's what I was doing."

The three-person commission includes a labor representative, an employer representative and a representative of the general public.

At issue is the latest edition of Labor News, a quarterly newsletter published by St. Clair.

The newsletter, which St. Clair said has been published by the TEC's labor representative for about 30 years, costs 15 cents a copy and is paid for with state money. About 6,000 copies are printed each quarter, St. Clair said.

Craddick cited three articles in the seven-page newsletter that he said espouse the political agenda of St. Clair. Two of the

articles are written by St. Clair, the other is a reprint.

In one article, St. Clair discusses the need for citizens and the government to work together, stating, "The recent rhetoric of the new Republican leadership has probably only reduced civility."

He writes in another that Texas has lost influence in Congress, despite the appointments of several Texas Republicans to leadership positions.

"In all likelihood, the change of control is less positive for a lot of Texas interests that had become used to exercising power through the well-established, repeatedly re-elected Democrats, the article states."

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