

Ron [Ron Fournier, Associated Press] is that we would build a road so it would become easily accessible. This is—I did not build this road. This is a road that the Engelbrechts built. But you have to maintain these things, obviously. The water will erode them out.

The deer lay down in here. They feel protected. And then the turkey were right up here.

[*The tour continued.*]

*The President.* Make news, will you.

This is the river right here, the middle fork of the Bosque. And right across the way is our neighbor. These are bur oaks. See these huge trees there? Aren't they spectacular?

Q. These guys must create some nice fall foliage.

*The President.* You get pretty good color here.

See the tree with the leaves still on it?

Q. Yes.

*The President.* That's called a bois d'arc, and it's a real hard wood that they claim the Indians used for their—[*inaudible*]. They produce a big, green apple. That's a big—[*inaudible*].

Q. So this is the line right here?

*The President.* No, this is just—[*inaudible*].

It's the middle fork of the Bosque. We have a mile and a half—you'll see a creek down here.

Q. Do you fish the river?

*The President.* No, no. This river is real gravelly. And most of the time, you won't see water running on the surface. It runs underneath the gravel. You know, I hike up and down this river a lot, and you might run into—in August, you might run into a pool of water, but that's about it.

Q. So we're 2.5 miles from what, the house?

*The President.* Yes. We have walked about 2 miles.

Q. A little exercise in the morning.

*The President.* Absolutely.

Q. Is everybody happy?

*The President.* See the—that's real gravelly and shallow.

Q. Do you periodically have rocks spread—

*The President.* Yes, caliche, right. I did. We'll hike up out of here by a caliche pit. It's kind of a salty limestone that's used for road—[*inaudible*].

Q. You've got it right here on the ranch?

*The President.* Yes. See out here, this is where most of the—[*inaudible*]. And the creek that we're fixing to come up here, it's really hard to cross. So I built a low-water crossing. So you'll see a low-water crossing.

Q. [*Inaudible*]

*The President.* Well, "low-water" means it's not a dam. In other words—

Q. Like a ford?

*The President.* Yes. The water runs continuously.

Q. [*Inaudible*]—are never done, right?

*The President.* These hardwoods are taking away a source of water. On a nice, relatively calm day, we'll come down and burn.

Q. These cliffs are all—

*The President.* Yes, they do. We're paralleling them. We'll see some more dramatic—it's about 3½ miles all throughout here in the bottoms. Engelbrecht said he has seen water coming out of the creek and the river all across here, which is why you would never build down here.

Those cedars, small cedars, were crowded up against the hardwoods and competing with the hardwoods for the water.

Some of these are pecans out here, great big pecan trees. The pecan is a fruit-bearing tree. We didn't have a very good pecan crop this year.

See the white tree over there, the white bark? That's a sycamore, and they grow in the river.

Q. You're quite the tree man.

*The President.* I am a tree man.

Q. The Audubon Society—