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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Caracas, Venezuela)

For Immediate Release

December 8, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE VENEZUELAN AND AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Caracas Hilton Hotel
Caracas, Venezuela

1:43 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: President Perez, you do us honor, sir, by being here today. And may I take this opportunity before my remarks to thank you for the exceptional and wonderful and extraordinary hospitality that you have given to me and to Dorothy and to all of the rest of the people traveling with me. I'll never forget it, and thank you, sir.

To John Werner, the President of VenAmCham, thank you, sir, for your hospitality and giving us this forum. And, of course, thank you for that very special scholarship fund that has been set up in our names. It will mean a great deal to Barbara Bush, I can assure you. Her commitment to education I think is well-known. But in any event, this is such a generous and wonderful thing you've done.

To Secretary Brady, and our ambassadors, and Dr. Morales Bello, and Dr. Figueredo, the members of the Court, the Chamber leadership, and all out here, thank you.

You know, in the last week, I've looked out my window on Air Force One and seen the jungles of Brazil, the snowy peaks of the Andes, the tropical beauty of the Orinoco Basin. But I have to say, among the great sights of all the Americas is your lovely city. As you know -- if you'll excuse me a personal note; John and I were talking about this -- our son Jeb came here and opened an office here several years ago for a Texas bank. And he was a member of this distinguished Chamber of Commerce. He and our daughter-in-law Columba loved living here. I have been here several times starting I think it was 30 years ago. So it's a delight to return to this great capital, so well-known to the Bush family, so well-known and so highly respected all across my country.

This marks my last stop on the South American continent on this trip. And so I thought it only appropriate to speak today not just of the relations of our two countries, but of our shared concern for the future of our hemisphere. After all, Venezuela has always been a South American leader, and so, I might add, has this President of yours.

President Carlos Andres Perez is justly proud of his past successes. But, again, Cap wants to do more than strengthen the democratic traditions of one country. He's a tireless promoter of universal liberty. And that's why he is respected and admired throughout the world.

Our working relationship as heads of state is strong; our friendship a bridge between our nations. But something even more profound is at work here. The United States and Latin America are developing a new understanding of each other. We are, at long last, working together in a spirit of mutual respect, for the greater good of the Americas.

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This is only natural. Like your country, the United States won its liberty from European princes and powers. From the vision of Bolivar to that of George Washington, our nations were born for the sake of freedom.

As we near the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' epic voyage, we are making a discovery of our own, of a new relationship between North and South. As I've said during this journey, we should not speak of a First World or a Third World, but of our New World.

No nation has been a stronger voice for freedom than Venezuela. It was, after all, here in Caracas that many of today's democratic leaders from across the continent found safe harbor. When Caracas looks south, you behold a continent in which all leaders have, for the first time, been chosen by their people and have faith in their people.

This trip has reinforced what I have long believed: Latin America today is a profile in courage because the people of this continent -- shopkeepers and students, political leaders and trade unionists -- have struggled, sacrificed and died to restore the rule of law and to defend democracy. Cities once under martial law -- peoples once living in fear -- are now reborn in hope.

Look at the recent flare-up in Argentina. A handful of army officers tried to settle a dispute with superior officers by force. And President Menem moved quickly and the people never wavered in support of their elected government. The vast majority of the Armed Forces defended their Constitution and obeyed their civilian commander-in-chief.

Latin America today is also a profile in courage because the leaders and people of this hemisphere have thrown off the shackles of an outmoded set of ideas about how to promote economic growth. They've embarked instead on a bold new course.

Two decades ago, Latin America followed an economic model based on the flawed idea that the people of this continent could not compete in a modern marketplace and that the state had to shelter local industries and protect them behind high tariff walls and protectionist barriers. And that an increasingly intrusive state, rather than a liberated people, was the formula for economic growth.

Those policies were promoted as the path to development -- particularly for the poor. You and I know, regrettably, that the opposite was true. For the closed economic systems that were created smothered growth and thwarted upward mobility for ordinary people. They instead created a rigged system based on privilege, in which only a handful could prosper through their connections with the state.

Today, throughout this hemisphere, a new generation of bold democratic leaders has confronted that sterile status quo, and they have breathed new life into Latin America. I've met with five of these leaders -- Carlos Menem, Fernando Collor, Luis Alberto Lacalle, and Patricio Aylwin and, of course, here in your country, Carlos Andres Perez.

You're the bold pioneers of a new path to development in this continent: stripping away state controls, selling off inefficient state-owned enterprises, realigning overvalued exchange rates, and bringing down tariff walls. These leaders understand that the road to growth, jobs and rising income is through new investment, expanded trade, and unleashing the energy of entrepreneurs.

I want to work in partnership with this new breed of leadership. And that is why I have proposed our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative -- to open doors to the free movement of goods and ideas between our countries. To work for a sound financial footing, reduce debt burdens, and increase trade, investment and

opportunity for all Americans.

And so the Enterprise for the Americas seeks to promote open investment policies through new lending in the Inter-American Development Bank, as well as the creation of a multilateral fund to support investment reform.

Venezuela has already embarked on the difficult path of economic reform. Your President recognizes these steps have created hardship for many Venezuelans. President Perez correctly believes that in the long run all Venezuelans will benefit and prosper from reform.

Trade ties between our nations also continue to broaden and to strengthen. And that doesn't mean only oil, but an impressive array of new products that are helping to create jobs. And more, much more, lies ahead. Under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative, we are negotiating a framework agreement on trade and investment to resolve specific problems and to identify new areas of cooperation. This is a first step toward free and open trade throughout the Americas.

Trade and investment are only two pillars of our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. We recognize that the burden of external debt weighs heavily on efforts to breathe new life into Latin America and Caribbean economies. And for that reason -- as the third pillar in this comprehensive approach -- the United States will help countries committed to free market reform shake loose this burden of debt.

You can be proud that, under President Carlos Andres Perez's leadership, Venezuela -- in the lead -- has reached a debt-reduction agreement with the commercial banks under the Brady Plan. This agreement is a vote of confidence by the international financial community in Venezuela's economic policies.

Our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative is more than a slogan; it is more than just another program. It is a challenge to commit ourselves to free markets and to the free flow of capital, central to achieving economic growth and lasting prosperity. And that's why I've come to Latin America this week, to extend my hand in an offer of a new partnership, based on mutual respect and mutual responsibility. Ours is more than an economic partnership; it is a moral partnership.

Your President and I stand together on serious challenges facing all civilized nations -- challenges that ask us to choose, literally, between right and wrong; between good and evil. Our country is the world's largest buyer of cocaine. And so we're fighting hard at home to reduce demand. We're doing it through increased education and treatment efforts that are already showing positive results. Your neighbors are the world's largest suppliers. Little surprise, then, that as much as 80 tons of cocaine a year move through Venezuela. Carlos Andres Perez and I agree, there can be no compromise with this obscene traffic in human addiction and human lives. (Applause.) We are committed to nothing less than decisive victory over the drug lords.

Just a few weeks ago, we signed a bilateral money laundering agreement to help sever the flow of cash from the back streets to the banks. President Perez and I are standing firm. And we will win this war on drugs.

On another important moral question, Venezuela has already shown magnificent leadership by working with the world community to counter the aggression of Saddam Hussein. You acted resolutely and responsibly in denouncing Iraq's conquest of Kuwait in the United Nations. And as a reliable supplier of oil, you have demonstrated determination at a time when the dictator of Iraq threatens the world's economy through economic blackmail -- and I applaud your leadership.

Among the many shared challenges I've addressed today, there is one vision: In the Americas, we are many nations with a single destiny. We see a new dawn, where ordinary men and women decide who shall govern; and where economic freedoms are not threats to privilege, but keys to prosperity. And that's what our Enterprise for the Americas is all about. And that is what the new partnership we seek is all about. It's a partnership with Latin America to strengthen democratic institutions and defend the rule of law. A partnership to move forward together -- to safeguard our environmental heritage, to protect the children of the Americas from the scourge of drugs, to prevent the spread of deadly chemical or nuclear weapons of war; a partnership to bring down debt, promote investment, and expand free trade so that all the citizens of the Americas can enjoy rising incomes and expanding opportunities.

If we seize this opportunity, the partnership between the United States and Latin America can become a model for all nations into the 21st century.

Some may dismiss this vision as a dream. I am confident that it is already becoming a reality. You see, I believe the day will soon come when every man and woman in the Americas is a citizen of the world's first completely democratic hemisphere -- a hemisphere in which human rights are respected; the strong are just; the weak, secure; and the rule of law prevails. And I believe the day will soon come when Latin America and the United States unite together in the world's first hemisphere in which trade is free, technology shared, and the benefits of prosperity are open to all.

This week in South America -- ending with this inspiring visit to Venezuela -- leaves me more dedicated than ever to work with you to make that dream come true.

Thank you for this warm welcome. And may God bless you all in your important work. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

2:00 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 13, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARDS

Grand Hall
Department of Commerce

11:23 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: May I, too, salute the Deputy Secretary Mr. Murrin; and, of course, the Secretaries from the other Cabinet departments that are here. I'm delighted to see all of you. I want to single out our Science Advisor that was to be here, Allan Bromley -- I'm not sure he is -- but in any event, very much interested in this whole field of competitiveness. Dick Truly of NASA, a keen stake in seeing the quality of all performed. I want to salute the Cadillac General Manager John Grettenberger; John Akers, who is the President and CEO of IBM, Chairman of the Board -- the President and Chairman of the Board of Federal Express, who's with us, Fred Smith -- we'll be seeing these all in a bit; and John Wallace, from Houston, who is the CEO of the Wallace Company.

And then I also want to salute the members of Congress who are good enough to be with us today; members of the Baldrige family. How I love Mac Baldrige. Welcome home. And congratulations especially to these winners. And I'm proud to see some who were honored last year.

I want to single out Bob Mosbacher here, who is doing a splendid job as our Secretary of Commerce. A quality job I might say. (Applause.) Quality is it. Quality for our administration. And we're here today to present these four awards, as I say, named for another man of quality, and that again is former Secretary Mac Baldrige. What a great guy.

He was -- you know, some forget this, but Mac, prior to becoming Secretary of Commerce, was a true leader in business. And when it came business, he really did understand that quality cannot be assured with some slogan or an ad campaign. And he knew that it begins with winning and keeping business. And it begins with understanding that only customers can define quality. And in short, it begins and ends with the unsentimental judgment of the marketplace.

Once quality separated winning firms from sluggish ones. That time has long since passed. And with the fierce competition of the international market, quality means survival; nothing less.

The renewed commitment by America to quality can be seen in the explosion of applications to receive the Baldrige Award. In just a few years, the National Quality Award has literally become the standard of business excellence. And the renewed spirit of excellence in business -- of making quality an integral part of America's corporate strategy -- has truly, I believe, made us more competitive in the international arena. Exports have already increased nearly eight percent from year-ago levels and the figures keeps on rising.

To compete and win in the international arena, United States companies are simply going to have to offer products and services that are world-class. And that's the purpose behind this

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award. And it's a national purpose.

So we're here today not only to honor these four deserving firms, but to promote an awareness of quality in American business and to share successful management strategies. Strategies that can, indeed, sharpen America's lead in the world marketplace. Each of these companies offers unique lessons. But these four companies also found success in a few basic principles. They learned that "quality control" cannot be imposed from top to bottom. They understand that quality management must cut through organization charts, across departments and offices. A "quality culture" does not depend on titles and job descriptions.

And finally, these winning companies also realize that they are only as strong as the intelligence, judgment, and character of their employees.

This year, the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award is going to all three award categories: manufacturing, small business and, for the first time, service.

The winners with us today were selected from a population of American organizations that requested more than 180,000 application guidelines this year. And what I said of last year's honorees applies today: Most companies catch hell from the competition. But these companies are in the lead because no competitor gave them a tougher time than they gave themselves.

Three of our winners are household names. Let me start with IBM at Rochester, a company that proves that quality coupled with employee training and education is simply good business. In fact, IBM Rochester spends five times -- five times -- the national average on education and training. And just one reason why IBM Rochester is globally competitive.

And the next recipient is another household name, the first automotive company to earn this award: Cadillac. And when many companies speak of quality changes, they speak of improvement in management. This company speaks of a "culture change" -- a clear recognition that Cadillac knows that quality begins with the morale and idea of its people. Cadillac executives, plant managers or union representatives all have worked together to help win this award. Quality councils are at work at each of the company's seven major facilities, supported by hundreds of company teams. And they show -- Cadillac shows that labor-management cooperations indeed yields quality results.

The next recipient is Federal Express, the first large service company to earn this award. This is a critical recognition because so much of our work force and our national wealth comes from the service sector. And Federal Express is simply nothing less than a model for all other service corporations.

From ground zero in 1973, Federal Express has shot up to one of the world's largest transportation companies, with more than 90,000 employees making 1.5 million shipments a day.

As with IBM Rochester and Cadillac, the secret of success for Federal Express is its training and reliance on its employees. With a no-layoff philosophy and extensive training, Federal Express attracts top-notch, motivated people. In fact, during the last five years, nearly 100 percent of Federal Express employees surveyed responded that they were proud to be a part of their company.

And that's why Federal Express delivers. And all American workers should feel they are as much a part of their companies.

And that brings me then to the Wallace Company of Houston, Texas, the first small service business to be recognized. This family-owned firm extends its family approach to all of Wallace's 280 skilled and well-trained employees, people who think of

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themselves as "associates."

The Wallace Company proves that quality is not just for the Fortune 500. This small distributor of industrial goods not only survived the recent rough economic times in Houston, it proved that even in tough times you can still commit to long-term improvements in quality.

In business, success is its own reward. But the men and women of these four firms have given all Americans a standard of excellence. A standard to emulate. A standard to surpass.

And they have proven that quality management is not just a strategy. It must be a new style of working, even a new style of thinking. A dedication to quality and excellence is more than good business. It's a way of life -- giving something back to society, offering your best to others.

And so for all of that, you have my admiration, my heartiest congratulations to every single American worker that you represent.

And may I say to all of you, thank you and Merry Christmas. And I'm very proud to be here to participate in this ceremony. Thank you all.

END

11:32 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 1991

TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S
OPEN LETTER TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

January 9, 1991

If armed men invaded a home in this country, killed those in their way, stole what they wanted and then announced the house was now theirs -- no one would hesitate about what must be done.

And that is why we cannot hesitate about what must be done halfway around the world: in Kuwait.

There is much in the modern world that is subject to doubts or questions -- washed in shades of gray. But not the brutal aggression of Saddam Hussein against a peaceful, sovereign nation and its people. It's black and white. The facts are clear. The choice unambiguous.

Right vs. wrong.

The terror Saddam Hussein has imposed upon Kuwait violates every principle of human decency. Listen to what Amnesty International has documented. "Widespread abuses of human rights have been perpetrated by Iraqi forces ... arbitrary arrest and detention without trial of thousands ... widespread torture ... imposition of the death penalty and the extrajudicial execution of hundreds of unarmed civilians, including children."

Including children. There's no horror that could make this a more obvious conflict of good vs. evil. The man who uses chemical warfare on his own people -- once again including children -- now oversees public hangings of dissenters. And daily his troops commit atrocities against Kuwaiti citizens.

This brutality has reverberated throughout the entire world. If we do not follow the dictates of our inner moral compass and stand up for human life, then his lawlessness will threaten the peace and democracy of the emerging New World Order we now see: this long dreamed-of vision we've all worked toward for so long.

A year after the joyous dawn of freedom's light in Eastern Europe, a dark evil has descended in another part of the world. But we have the chance -- and we have the obligation -- to stop ruthless aggression.

I have been in war. I have known the terror of combat. And I tell you this with all my heart: I don't want there to be war ever again. I am determined to do absolutely everything possible in the search for a peaceful resolution to this crisis -- but only if the peace is genuine, if it rests on principle, not appeasement.

But while we search for that answer, in the Gulf young men and women are putting their own lives on hold in order to stand for peace in our world and for the essential value of human life itself. Many are younger than my own children. Your age, most of them. Doing tough duty for something they believe in.

Let me tell you about one of the soldiers over there, S.F.C. Terry Hatfield, a young man from Georgia. He sent me a Christmas card. And this is what he wrote.

"Mr. President, I just wanted you to know my soldiers and I are ready to do whatever mission you decide. Freedom as we know and enjoy has been taken away from another country and must be restored. Although we are separated from family, friends, loved ones, we will do what must be done ... We stand ready and waiting. God Bless you and the U.S.A."

Terry understands the moral obligation that has compelled our extraordinary multi-national coalition to make this stand in the Gulf. To look this international terrorist straight in the eye and say: no concessions. To proclaim for now and for the future: no compromises. To bear witness by our presence to the fact that aggression will not be rewarded.

Terry waits thousands of miles from the White House, yet we share the same thoughts. We desperately want peace. But we know that to reward aggression would be to end the promise of our New World Order. To reward aggression would be to destroy the United Nations' promise as international peacekeeper. To reward aggression would be to condone the acts of those who would desecrate the promise of human life itself.

And we will do none of this. There are times in life when we confront values worth fighting for. This is one such time.

Each day that passes means another day for Iraq's forces to dig deeper into their stolen land. Another day Saddam Hussein can work toward building his nuclear arsenal and perfecting his chemical and biological weapons capability. Another day of atrocities for Amnesty International to document. Another day of international outlaws, instead of international law.

I ask you to think about the economic devastation that Saddam Hussein would continue to wreak on the world's emerging democracies if he were in control of one-fifth of the world's oil reserves. And to reflect on the terrible threat that a Saddam Hussein armed with weapons of mass destruction already poses to human life and to the future of all nations.

Together, as an America united against these horrors, we can, with our coalition partners, assure that this aggression is stopped and the principles on which this nation and the rest of the civilized world are founded are preserved.

And so let us remember and support Terry Hatfield, all our fine servicemen and women, as they stand ready on the frontier of freedom, willing to do their duty and do it well. They deserve our complete and enthusiastic support -- and lasting gratitude.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 31, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
DURING THE NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Washington Hilton Hotel
Washington, D.C.

9:50 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much for that warm welcome. And let me just greet our -- Prime Minister Henry here and Prime Minister Ratu Mara and President Goncz over here and all the other visitors from overseas.

And I want to pay my special respects to the members of the Senate and House Prayer Group. I would also like to single out Doug Coe, who has been such a guiding light in all of this. (Applause.) And, of course, our special thanks to Joe Gibbs and to Governor Buddy Romer for sharing in such a personal way their faith.

My heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone involved in this marvelous event. Dr. Graham was reminding Barbara and me when we came over here of its genesis, and how President Eisenhower, he felt, seemed very nervous about whether this would be the right thing to do and whether it would be a fulfilling experience for the people that attended. And I expect Ike would, if he could have attended this one, would have had no doubts whatsoever.

I want to thank everyone for their concern and prayers about Barbara's recent accident. In these days of environmental terrorism -- (laughter) -- I can happily report that the tree is very well and so is Barbara Bush doing very well, I might say. (Applause.) And I say that with considerable pride. (Applause.)

This is a diverse group. I've never seen anything quite like it -- politically or anything else. But we do have one thing in common: We stand together in prayer. Let me just share a letter -- a true letter I received here from a mother who told me a story about her five-year-old son's evening prayers. As he knelt by his bed, this kid was kneeling in prayer, and his parents explained that they were going to pray together for President Bush so that he would have the wisdom to get the hostages out of Iraq. And after a minute of deep thinking, the little boy said, "Mom, how is a bush going to get the people out of the rock, and how did they get there in the first place?" Well, the mother, in her wrap-up of the letter, said that it was a good thing the Lord knew what the boy was praying for, because he sure didn't. (Laughter.) But, you know, the hostages came out of Iraq. (Laughter.)

So I believe the Lord does hear our prayers. Joe put it very beautifully here. I know our country is praying for peace. And across this nation the churches, the synagogues, the mosques are packed, record attendance at services. In fact, the night the war began, Dr. Graham was at the White House. And he spoke to us then of the importance of turning to God as a people of faith, turning to Him in hope. And then the next morning, Dr. Graham went over to Fort Myer where we had a lovely service leading our nation in a beautiful prayer service there, with special emphasis on the troops overseas.

So I expect when Barbara and I were there at that prayer service, we were doing -- only doing what everyone in America was doing -- praying for peace.

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You know, America is a nation founded under God. And from our very beginnings we have relied upon His strength and guidance in war and in peace. And this is something we must never forget. Just yesterday -- you're going to think I do nothing but read the mail -- (laughter) -- but just yesterday I got a letter from a man who pointed out to me that during the State of the Union message that I had neglected to make any mention of God. And I was somewhat defensive about that, so I quickly went back and I did see at the very end "may God bless America." But then I got realizing that this man was correct. I have learned what I suppose every President has learned, and that is that one cannot be President of our country without faith in God. And without knowing with certainty that we are one nation under God. So I think I should have made that clear -- more clear that God is our rock and salvation, and we must trust Him and keep faith in Him.

And so we ask his blessings upon us and upon every member, not just of our Armed Forces, but of our coalition armed forces, with respect for the religious diversity that is represented as these 28 countries stand up against aggression.

Today I'm asking and designating that Sunday, February 3rd, be a national day of prayer. And I encourage all people of faith to say a special prayer on that day -- a prayer for peace; a prayer for the safety of our troops; a prayer for their families; a prayer for the innocents caught up in this war; and a prayer that God will continue to bless the United States of America. (Applause.)

END

9:57 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Goldsboro, North Carolina)

For Immediate Release

February 1, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND FAMILIES

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base
Goldsboro, North Carolina

11:55 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so very much. Cynthia, thank you for that introduction. This is the warmest picnic on a cold day I've ever attended, I'll tell you. (Applause.) And really, it's great to be here at Seymour Johnson, home of the 4th Tactical Fighter Wing -- the "Rocketeers" and the "Chiefs" -- (applause) -- as well as these great refueling units, the 68th and the 916th. (Applause.) And let me just pay my respects and say what an unbelievable job Colonel "Jumbo" Wray is doing here on this base. We're very proud of him. (Applause.) While your Wing Commander, Colonel Hornburg, is deployed with Desert Storm, Jumbo is filling in, doing just great.

And I'm also glad to see a man that flew over with me from our last stop -- that's Governor Martin out here, the Governor of this state. Congressman Martin Lancaster, from this district, and I am very proud he is with us here today. And, of course, the Mayor, Mayor Plunk is with us, too. And I wanted to specifically thank the Military Affairs Committee of the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce for hosting this fantastic picnic. I don't believe I've had so much fun in a long, long time. (Applause.)

And, of course, I do want to salute two others -- our very able Secretary of the Air Force, that you just met, Don Rice back there; as well as the Air Force Chief of Staff, General Tony McPeak -- both of them doing a fantastic job for our country. (Applause.)

This is a three-stop day for me. We just came here from the Marine Air Station at Cherry Point, and from here we head to Fort Stewart. But I want to tell you how very pleased I am to be able to spend some time meeting and talking to at least some of you -- especially the kids -- because I know in my heart how tough these days can be. There's a lot of waiting, a lot of uncertainty. The not knowing. But each of you do know this: The men and women from Seymour Johnson are doing a fantastic job for this country, and we are very, very grateful. (Applause.)

You've got the tactical fighters and the refuelers and the medical personnel -- (applause) -- the civil engineers and the security police. I just want you to know how grateful the nation is to this entire team -- and to you -- and to share with you here today just a few thoughts. I cast fear and horror into the heart of one guy I was having lunch with because I told him this was going to take 45 minutes -- it won't, believe me.

But let me just share some thoughts with you. I probably don't need to tell you that the brave servicemen and women of this base are part of the most motivated, the best educated, the best equipped armed forces in the history of this great country of ours -- bar none. (Applause.) Because they are, and you are, doing the hard work of freedom, the cause of freedom will prevail. I'm absolutely certain of that. (Applause.)

You know, we're now more than two weeks into Desert

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Storm. And I'm happy to say and -- put it this way -- we are on course and we are on schedule. And as each day passes, Iraq's war machine, thanks to many of your loved ones, is being systematically destroyed by our allied military forces. Our investment, our training, and our planning are paying off. And, yes, sacrifices still lay ahead, but we will succeed. And when we do, we will have taught Saddam Hussein -- and all others like him -- that there is no place for lawless aggression in the region or in this new world order that we envision. (Applause.)

While I'm here, I would be remiss if I didn't salute what the U.S. and coalition airmen have accomplished. Air superiority is an established fact now. The Iraqi Air Force is no longer a factor. (Applause.) And I know that this base, as much as any base in the country -- this base is very proud of the way that we have used air superiority to go after Saddam's missiles of terror. (Applause.)

And, yes, our mission in the Gulf is demanding and it's difficult, but I can tell you that our troops will not be asked to accomplish their mission with one hand tied behind their back. We are not going to do that in this war. (Applause.) And let me say something else -- your husbands and wives, and your moms and dads will not be in that Gulf one day longer than is absolutely necessary. I want them home, and I want them all home. (Applause.)

And finally -- and I don't think I have to tell this particular group this point -- but I want each of you and all our troops -- this really is for the troops -- I want you to know that the American people stand with you. And I hope you had a chance to watch at least part of that -- the part of the State of the Union message that I want to mention to you because if you did, you would have seen a very moving scene: The entire Congress -- and Congressman Lancaster was there; he will tell you this is true -- the entire Congress, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, the Joint Chiefs, the diplomatic corps, rose to their feet in a prolonged, heartfelt tribute to the troops. It was a moving thing. And if only you could have felt it as I did standing up there in front of the Congress -- felt the thunder of the applause and sensed the emotion that filled that chamber. And the cheering for our Armed Forces -- and it was strong, it was for them -- was followed by two more standing ovations for you, the courageous families of our servicemen and women. And it was for you and for our troops. And that's exactly the way it should have been.

And I hope that that Saddam Hussein, in his bunker somewhere in Baghdad, saw every single minute of it. And if he had -- (applause) -- and if he did, maybe he now understands that we are a nation united in support of our troops. (Applause.)

I know it's been tough on a lot of you -- maybe all you -- here at Seymour Johnson. And I know also what it is that you have offered this great nation of ours. I understand what it is that I have asked of you, what General McPeak has asked of you. Members of this fighting unit have voluntarily set aside their freedom to wage this battle. But while today some may be prisoners of war, and others may have made the ultimate sacrifice, a lifetime of democracy and faith in God keeps their spirit free. No foreign dictator can imprison the love of liberty that beats in the hearts of every American.

And before I finish, I'd like to say something to all of the kids here today. I want you to know that your parents, your loved ones, our troops in the Gulf, are enduring the hardships of war today so that you may know the blessings of peace tomorrow.

And seeing such strong, wonderful families here today, and knowing the support that you have received from this community is good for the soul and proves the strength of America's spirit. And I thank each and every one of you -- I thank each and every one of you. And when I climbed on Air Force One of this morning out there, I told them this over at Cherry Point, I heard on the television, President Bush is visiting the bases to help lift the moral. And it's been

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exactly 180 degrees the other way around. My moral has been pretty darn good, frankly, but seeing those people over there and now all of you, my moral has never been more sky-high. (Applause.)

Thank you for this fantastic support for the troops. (Applause.) Because you see -- you see, I do draw strength and courage from your forbearance for the job that the Colonel and all the others are doing around here. And I ask God's blessing upon you all -- every one of you -- and upon every soldier and sailor, Marine, airman and Coast Guardsman -- every man and woman now serving in the Persian Gulf. What a wonderful country we have. And nothing could prove that more than the patriotism and the courage and the devotion of your loved ones, our beloved troops, halfway around the world.

May God bless the United States of America and each and every one of you. (Applause.) Thank you very, very much.

END

12:06 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 8:05 P.M. EST
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE ECONOMIC CLUB OF NEW YORK

Grand Ballroom
New York Hilton Hotel
New York, New York

February 6, 1991

This year marks a defining hour -- a moment of truth -- for this generation, for this country, and for the United Nations, too. We were patient and we were cautious. But when the moment of truth came, America and the world did what was moral, what was just, and what was right.

We said the occupation of Kuwait would not stand. And three weeks ago tonight, at just about this time, we announced that the liberation of Kuwait had begun.

Three weeks ago tonight, allied forces moved to end a conflict we did not seek and did not begin. But ladies and gentlemen -- it's one we and our allies will finish. Tonight we are on course and on schedule. Mission by mission, hour by hour, Iraq's capacity to wage war is being systematically destroyed by American and Coalition forces.

The road to real peace will be long and tough. But we will prevail. And when we do, we will have before us an historic opportunity. From the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates -- where civilization began -- civilized behavior can begin anew. We can build a better world -- a new world order.

Tonight, the world is united by shared commitments, shared interests, shared hopes. Our efforts will determine the kind of legacy we bequeath our children, the kind of world they will live in. And so, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals in which our troops so resolutely believe. Because in the final analysis, America and her partners will be measured not by how we wage war but how we make peace.

I said in my State of the Union Address that "We are the Nation that can shape the future." And shaping the future is a job that begins at home: Long-term economic growth is central to quality of life for America's families, quality of decency for America's communities, and to the quality of leadership America can bring in its special role as the world's leading diplomatic, cultural, and economic power.

Just over eight years ago, when we came out of recession, the longest peacetime expansion in American history began. Working together, we created millions of new jobs, and cut both interest rates and inflation in half -- a triumph driven by the energies of the most dynamic and diverse economy on Earth.

Against this background, the events of 1990 served to remind us that even a fundamentally healthy economy faces the risk of temporary disturbances and short-term setbacks. For example, when Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, it was a shock to the world's conscience. Business and consumer confidence fell. Oil prices rose. Inflation worries rose. And interest rates reflected an extra risk premium. Taken together, this produced a very real blow to an economy that had already slowed.

But make no mistake: The current recession does not signal any decline in the fundamental, long-term health or basic vitality of our economy. America is a "can do" nation. And America is home to the largest, most productive economy on Earth. Our Administration's economic policies are designed to strengthen the foundation for a solid recovery and guarantee the highest possible rate of sustained economic growth. I described the three pillars of that foundation in the State of the Union Address: Encouraging economic growth; investing in the future; and giving power and opportunity to the individual.

Encouraging economic growth means reducing Federal borrowing -- by cutting the growth of Federal spending. That's why we sent Congress a budget proposal that holds spending growth below the rate of inflation -- the lowest increase in spending in five years. And that's why the budget law was armed with real teeth -- "pay-as-you-go" provisions and enforceable spending caps -- aimed at cutting the growth of debt by nearly half a trillion dollars. True, the deficit is high -- unacceptably high. The S&L costs, the war, and the economic decline haven't helped a bit. But thanks to the budgetary reforms begun last fall, the deficit will be virtually eliminated by 1995.

To ensure economic growth, this Administration will also redouble its efforts to weed out counter-productive government regulations. The market must be allowed to work without unnecessary Federal intervention.

We must also fuel economic growth by providing incentives to promote private savings and job-creating investment. Our budget includes tax-free family savings accounts; penalty-free IRA withdrawals for first-time home buyers; and a reduced tax for long-term capital gains. That will help bring down the cost of capital, which will help American businesses compete at home and abroad.

We must also renew our investments in America's future. That means investing in the education and safety of our children. Investing in the infrastructure of our transportation system. Investing in reforms for the financial services system. Investing in high technology and in space.

The budget proposal we sent to Capitol Hill has been well-received. It includes a record \$76 billion for research and development, one of the most important investments we can make in the long-term economic and military strength of our Nation. It also recognizes that government must help translate the results of basic research into the generic technologies that strengthen our industries and improve our lives. This isn't an investment in machines -- it's an investment in people -- in the scientists, engineers and educators who will produce the advances of the 21st Century. And together with the Nation's Governors, we have launched a comprehensive effort at reform and restructuring, aimed at producing an educational renaissance.

We've still got a long way to go. But we won't sell our kids short. As one observer said of the troops manning Patriot missiles in the Gulf: "In one day, they wiped out the idea that young Americans are not smart enough for the 21st Century."

Investing in the future also means modernizing our financial system -- which is exactly what our able Secretary of the Treasury unveiled yesterday with our banking reform proposals. These reforms will continue to protect every insured depositor in America. But they will also address the reality of the modern financial marketplace by creating a U.S. financial system that protects taxpayers, serves consumers, and strengthens our economy. We don't want to be back again in a couple of years to do this all over again. That's why half-way solutions won't do -- we have to do the whole job, and we have to do it now.

The challenges ahead are great. But by any historical standard, the current downturn is expected to be mild and brief. And today in America, the bottom line is this: While our economy may be beset by difficulty -- it should not be beset by doubt.

A healthy sense of confidence is backed by the facts. Inflation has been kept under control. Interest rates are beginning to decline further. The trade deficit declined for the third year in a row. Inventories have been kept down, reducing the need for production cuts to work off excess inventory. Because our major trading partners are seeing relatively strong growth, and the price of U.S. exports on world markets remains low, the pace of U.S. exports will continue to set record highs. In spite of many pre-war predictions that a Gulf War would send oil up to \$80 a barrel, oil prices have fallen substantially since their peaks in October, especially since the start of Operation Desert Storm. I believe that by standing up to aggression in the Gulf, we are guaranteeing the future security and stability of that area, that is so vital to global economic prosperity.

Later this month, the Administration will release its National Energy Strategy. The strategy will propose federal, state and private sector initiatives to increase energy efficiency and conservation. It recognizes the need for creating a clean, safe environment. And it also recognizes that we must find more domestic oil and gas, and use more alternative sources of energy.

Our strategy is designed to reduce our vulnerability to foreign oil supply disruptions. Some will argue that reducing our energy vulnerability is not enough, and that we should embark upon more drastic measures designed to achieve total energy independence. The reality is that we are a long way from total energy independence. We must avoid unwise and extreme measures that would seriously hurt American consumers, American jobs, and American industries.

Yes, we must begin reducing our energy vulnerability now. Our new strategy will do that because it is prudent, balanced, and comprehensive.

And finally, don't forget another underlying strength of our economy: The flexibility of America's free market system. To preserve this flexibility, we must keep our markets open and hold government restrictions to a minimum. This is not easy. I will continue to oppose protectionism, and continue to fight for a level playing field, so that international trade is free -- and fair.

That is what we are doing in the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations -- trying to lower barriers to the free flow of goods and services around the world. That is also what we seek in the negotiations we will launch this year with Mexico and Canada to create a North American Free Trade Area. And our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative is intended to extend the benefits of flexibility throughout the Western Hemisphere.

To build a new, peaceful world order, we must also secure the democratic triumphs of the past year. I am thinking especially of the "Revolution of '89." The new democracies in central and Eastern Europe inspire us all with their commitment to free societies and free market economies, but they face daunting obstacles from the Communist past, as well as severe new problems brought on by lost markets and higher oil prices.

Our Administration is committed to help and committed to lead: Despite the burden we are bearing in the Gulf, I have asked Congress for \$470 million in new assistance for Central and Eastern Europe, a substantial increase over last year.

Four decades ago, the Marshall Plan helped build a West European zone of prosperity and security that greatly benefitted the United States. Together with our West European partners, we can now extend this success to create a Europe whole and free -- an entire continent of prosperity and stability that fulfills the vision of the Marshall Plan.

With their great human potential and commitment to market economic reform, Central and Eastern European countries offer real opportunities for U.S. trade and investment. I urge American business to seize these opportunities, as many are doing. G.E.'s Jack Welch weighed in with a \$150 million joint venture with Tungsram in Hungary. Union Pacific's Drew Lewis stepped up to the plate with an impressive effort to modernize Poland's railroads. And Bell Atlantic and U.S. West have begun an \$80 million telecommunications venture in Czechoslovakia.

History is moving decisively in favor of freedom -- thanks, in large part, to American ideals and perseverance. The touchstones of the modern world -- which the emerging democracies are now striving for -- are free markets, free speech, and free elections. America has lived by these tenets for over 200 years. They have given us both our power -- and our purpose.

That is why America and our allies are going to prevail in the Gulf. And that is why America and our partners are going to prosper in the years to come. Our best days are before us. And I can assure you -- America, and the world -- that we will continue to fight for principle. We will continue to do the hard work of freedom.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 25, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN SALUTE TO U.S. ACADEMIC DECATHLON WINNERS

The Rose Garden

11:37 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated. Thank you. What a day. I was going to apologize for keeping you waiting, but now I think I'll take credit for giving you the time in the sun here. (Laughter.) It is beautiful and we are just delighted to have you all here. I want to especially recognize this gentleman in the front row, Ted Sanders, who's doing such a wonderful job at our Department of Education; Bob Suarez of the U.S. Academic Decathlon; and the teams from D.C.'s Benjamin Banneker High School, and Alexandria, Virginia's Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology.

And, of course, welcome to our newest American heroes, the 1991 Academic Decathlon champs -- the team's from J.J. Pearce High School in Richardson, Texas. We're proud of you. And, I think, America is proud of you.

I was looking over some of the questions you tackled, like: The Earth's magnetic field is compressed on the sun-facing side by what?" Well -- (laughter) -- the kids behind me know, but for the media out there, the answer is: solar wind. (Laughter.) You guys remember that.

All I can say is, I wouldn't have made it past the round where they asked me to spell "broccoli." (Laughter.)

But congratulations to Kevin, Dardy, Eugene, Misty, Christine, Craig, Wade, Amie and Frank. And coaches Dorcas and Linda -- the Norman Schwarzkopfs of Pearce High. (Laughter.) That's what we refer to you as around here. (Laughter.) You've done something remarkable. This year's contest began with more than 35,000 students at 3,500 high schools coast to coast -- and now it's just you.

I must admit, it stirs my Texas pride a little to hear that in this national competition's 10-year history, your school has won five times. And I wish our son's Texas Rangers might be achieving the same kind of record in their field.

But I want to tell every one of the 35,000 across the nation, seriously, what you've done for this country. You've shown great things can be achieved by commitment. By perseverance, hard work, and teamwork.

And there's something I really like about the Decathlon -- something I'm going to tell my grandkids about. This isn't about being the smartest kid in your class -- after all, each of them is evenly divided among A, B and C students. The lesson, rather, of the Academic Decathlon is something each of us needs to take through life. It's about learning to be the best you can.

All right, I have a question. What do you have in common with Bruce Jenner, Rafer Johnson, and Jim Thorpe? All --

STUDENT: -- wearing Gold Medals.

THE PRESIDENT: That's it. (Laughter.) All winning. All winners. All winning decathletes. And the ones who mastered the

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ultimate test of the athlete and the student. You've shown your peers that it's as exciting to root for an academic team as an athletic one. And that it takes skill, stamina, and mental and emotional intensity to achieve in the classroom as well as in the stadium. And by doing that, you give them a priceless gift -- the belief in their ability to reach out and shape their own futures.

Last week, along with the Secretaries from the Department of Education -- Secretary Sanders was there and Secretary Alexander, our new Secretary -- I unveiled America 2000 -- our long-range strategy for educational excellence. It is ambitious. And it is far-reaching. And absolutely essential. There's a new century coming -- one with unlimited horizons. And our goal must be to make sure that our children enter this new world equipped with the skills that will let them dream dreams and know that they can make them come true.

America 2000 is a challenge posed to each of us -- to literally reinvent American education. To reach deep within us to find answers -- so that our kids can reach out to find the stars.

And that's why I'm so proud of you as messengers of this idea. Your lives and your accomplishments speak to other kids the way no words from a government or even a teacher can. These kids look at each of you and they see themselves. They look at you and they see what they, too, can become.

And that's what a new kind of a hero is. A new generation of heroes. With the good values you learn from disciplined determination. The sharp mind that's not wasted on drugs. The confidence and pride that come from stretching yourself, proving yourself. You're the ones who will help our America 2000 dream come true.

You have some pretty impressive partners, too, who will also have a big role to play in reaching our education goals. Private businesses. For instance, in this year's Decathlon, there was the local foundation in Hawaii which bought sweaters for its team to wear in competition. The Toastmasters Club which trained students for the speech segment. The companies that sent in experts from within their ranks to tutor the team members. And the major national corporations that underwrote scholarships for the winners.

These businesses believe that each of us can play a pivotal role in our kids' educational future. This amazing bond between industry and individual is the keystone of the American spirit. That spirit is the basis of the Decathlon. And it's exactly what we must bring to America 2000. You've proven -- and now we'll all act to continue to prove -- that together we can do great things.

Great things that will help inspire others. Great things like what's been done at the Decathlon by kids like D.C.'s Banneker High's Che-Wah Lee. Che-Wah Lee won the speech Gold Medal telling how his parents fled China so their children could know the American Dream.

Great things done by kids like Christine Liu here at Pearce High, the overall top student in the entire competition.

By kids like Fred Klug, winner of the Decathlon's 1990 Caperton Award for dedication to learning in the face of major obstacles -- Fred is permanently paralyzed, and scored 100 percent on the Super Quiz.

And there are great things being done by teams like Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology in Alexandria -- Rookie of the Year winner. Teams like Whitney Young Magnet High School in inner-city Chicago, which won this year's Bronze Medal and became the model for other large urban schools. Teams like Tennessee's Jackson Christian School -- state winner, although it has just 100 kids in the whole school.

Abraham Lincoln said, "I will study and prepare myself, and someday my chance will come." You've done just that. And you've inspired your countrymen to do just that.

Thank you, and congratulations. And may God bless you in the exciting futures out there ahead of you. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

11:45 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 26, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

The South Lawn

12:01 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated. Thank you all. I don't know how you begin to thank all these people that have contributed to this very special day. Tony Danza, an old friend -- I think he was as moved as I was by that reading we had just a minute ago. Randy Travis, so generous with his time and his creativity. Patti Lapone. I don't know what to say about the Eagles there, but it's just beautiful. And Andrea and Saundra, and Larnelle, and the Ellington Singers, and, of course, Peter Max. Just thank you so much for helping us honor this constellation of points of light across America -- our community service volunteers. A handful of them were here today, and we salute them. There are many, many more -- thank God -- like them all across our great country.

I was very pleased to hear from sitting off on the -- outside the Oval Office, our great Secretary of HUD, Jack Kemp -- not only is he pressing, giving hope in the area of housing, but he is out helping with this whole concept of points of light. Jack, thank you so much for being with us. (Applause.)

I want to pay special thanks to the Points of Light Foundation which, with the help of the United Way and many other organizations, has spent the past 12 days illuminating and celebrating community service initiatives all across our great country.

And special thanks to Jane Kenny, the Director of ACTION; and, of course, to Governor George Romney; and the National Center and Local Volunteer Centers for all they've done to make this Celebration of Service such a success.

I'm proud to see this crowd of people of all ages who display the power of community service. This celebration honors you, those Randy Travis calls "the dedicated army of quiet volunteers" -- the heroes and heroines who battle selflessly against drug abuse, homelessness, and hunger, and other plagues that ruin lives and shatter dreams.

You lead a great movement that's begun to race across this country. The Points of Light movement promises us renewed, strong America because it builds upon our natural yearnings to help one another. You already have been moved by the mighty spirit of voluntary service. Your labors have earned you something very special, something very precious -- fulfillment. You do something good, you feel something real. Barbara and I proudly salute each and every one of you for these wonderful efforts.

Our nation faces a wide variety of challenges, but the solution to each problem that confronts us begins with an individual who steps forward and who says: I can help. Government can only do so much and should only attempt so much, but no limits can hold back people determined to make a difference.

Indeed, our domestic policies try to unleash the American capacity for good deeds. Our America 2000 strategy for reinventing the American school depends not just on the government here in Washington, but upon the support of communities -- parents, families,

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businesses, unions, schools, other groups and associations of determined individuals.

Consider Eve Dubrow, a Point of Light here in Washington. Eve started project Northstar, a program in which she and other busy professionals tutor homeless children in reading and writing.

David Evans of Cambridge, Mass., provides another example. David, a computer buff, designed and then donated to others a software program that makes learning fun -- for children and for adults.

We need cities filled with policemen like Al Lewis in Philadelphia. He and other officers create libraries in public housing projects and invite kids into the precinct house to learn reading and writing.

Eve and David and Al, you've shown the rest of the country that individuals working together do matter; that points of light really can brighten the lives and remake communities.

Or consider issues of crime: While we work with Congress to pass comprehensive crime package legislation, many of you've begun to defeat the scourges of drugs and violence and crime.

America needs more individuals like Van Stadifer who formed this local group just across the line here, a "Midnight Basketball League," -- a program that offers kids late night basketball and tutoring as an alternative to life on the streets.

We need more people like Mr. W. W. Johnson, who transformed a school basement into a thriving community center where young people learn to respect and cherish hard work and thrift and compassion and family.

Consider issues of economic opportunity: Secretary Kemp and I have proposed the HOPE program to encourage home ownership, enterprise zones and capital gains reductions to stimulate more small businesses, more jobs. But others on their own are making a difference.

For instance, the Alpha Project. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds -- young college students to retired carpenters -- are training homeless men and women for jobs in the construction industry. Alpha also gives trainees free food, clothing and shelter until they earn enough money to live independently. America needs more Alpha Projects.

And here's the wonderful, truly remarkable thing. I could go on and on. There is no problem that is not being solved by someone somewhere in America. Together in every community we will renew the spirit of shared purpose that gave birth to this nation. We will embark upon the next century stronger and more unified than ever before.

This is not and never will be a miracle of government. It is a miracle of our people. Americans care. We gladly give of our time and our sweat and our souls.

As Marlene Wilson, the President of the Volunteer Management Association in Boulder, Colorado, points out, "Caring must strengthen into commitment -- and commitment into action." Someday soon all Americans will come to understand that America's most important resource is its community. The idea is simple: Just as a sailor can find his way via one shining star, a life can be changed by one dedicated, shining point of light. You see, that light burns within us, within all of us; we need only to share it.

God bless you, and so many thanks for the wonderful work you are doing. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 7, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS
PERSON OF THE YEAR CEREMONY

The Rose Garden

10:07 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated. Thank you from the bottom of my former fibrillating heart. (Laughter.) To June Nichols, the Acting Director -- Acting Deputy Administrator of the SBA; to the SBA regional administrators with us; especially to the members of Congress with us today. We're delighted to have you here. I just had the honor of signing the proclamation declaring this Small Business Week, and I'm delighted to be with all of you representing small business. Welcome to the White House, America's ultimate mom-and-pop operation. (Laughter.)

I've got to admit -- I'm glad to be out of the hospital. It's a little unsettling to turn on the news and see Peter Jennings pointing to a diagram of a heart with your name on it. (Laughter.) It's not even Valentine's Day. (Laughter.)

But there's an extraordinary force at work inside America. A force that does the good work of this country. A force that embodies America's can-do spirit. And that force, as we all know here today, is small business, made up of over 20 million men and women across the land who have taken control of their own lives, made their own choices and decisions. Twenty million who stake out their goals and pursue them with determination and grit and vision. Twenty million who believe in themselves, their neighbors, their country. And we're here today to celebrate these 20 million pieces of the American dream.

And we're going to meet five of them. You know, the Small Business Person of the year is one of the most important awards that is. Because it's an award of the American spirit, a spirit that doesn't understand the word "no."

Joann Schulz wouldn't take no for an answer. When an accident totally disabled her for more than three years, she refused to put her life on hold. She earned two degrees in that time. And when she couldn't afford to continue with her education, she found a job in the opthalmic business. She came up with an idea for making products for opthalmic surgeons. And when she did that she wouldn't listen to no -- she started her own business.

Joann wouldn't give up on life when her husband died suddenly. Instead, she poured her energy into her work. The results, sales have climbed from virtually nothing to \$5 million in just five years. Her staff has grown from three employees to 75. What once was virtually a neighborhood operation, now sells products in 22 nations around the world.

Joann has conquered adversity and she's built a future. And for that, we proudly name her the 1991 Small Business Person of the Year. (Applause.) Congratulations.

Leo LeBlanc wouldn't say "no" to life, either. Just when his wife developed a life-threatening illness, this corporate vice

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president was fired. Leo didn't give up. He said, "yes". Yes to starting over; yes, to finding and pursuing his own dream. He took over Enterprise Brass Works, making equipment for the petroleum industry. He instituted innovative reforms and showed faith in his workers and himself by purchasing the company -- putting every asset he owned on the line.

And now, Leo, says, "yes" to success. In the last decade his company has increased sales 525 percent and added more than 100 jobs. Leo LeBlanc is the Small Business Person of the Year 1st runner-up.

Leo, congratulations to you, sir. (Applause)

A mother's hastily improvised toy for a bored five-year-old became Caren Eilrich's ticket to the American dream. In 1984 she and her husband Mark, and friends produced the first "Space Tubes" in their laundry room. The toys were so successful that the couple risked everything to go into business. Then tragedy struck. Caren died in an accident just two years after starting the company. Mark picked up the pieces and, through hard work and loving care and labor, created a lasting memorial to his wife and a model for his country.

Last year Wildewood Creative Products won a Parent's Choice Award. Its sales approached \$3 million. Its staff exceeded 80, and with all supervisors and managers promoted from the production line. We honor Caren's memory and salute Mark, our second runner-up. (Applause.) Congratulations to you.

While Mark embodies determination, Paul Hsu embodies courage. He left Taiwan in search of freedom and opportunity. He found them in America. The company he started, Manufacturing Technology Inc., designs and manufactures sophisticated electronics products. Paul is our National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year.

The National Small Business Subcontractor Award goes to Bruce Walker's full-service engineering firm that has over 250 professionals. A firm that has performed engineering design work for such clients as the Los Alamos National Lab and the Department of Agriculture, Merrick & Company.

Our five honorees today illustrate the kind of grit and enterprise that have made our land great. You'll notice that many of them conduct business around the world. Our administration is committed to encouraging free trade so that all our entrepreneurs may compete globally.

If I might make a pitch. As you know, we've asked the Congress to extend the Fast-Track procedures that have been in effect since 1974. Fast-Track really means good faith. It assures our trading partners that we will not alter trade agreements that we've settled with them. Congress has the say. Congress will vote yes, or no on these agreements as they were written by our negotiators and their counterparts.

It also encourages close cooperation between administration negotiators and Congress. After all, we don't want to submit agreements to Congress that will not pass. Fast-Track does not take away Congress' power to accept or reject trade agreements, nor does it railroad the American public into unwise deals. It simply smooths the way for the kind of agreements that American businessmen and women -- people like today's honorees -- need to spread their goods and ideas throughout the world.

We salute our five winners, as well as the state winners here today. And we also want to honor the agency founded to help them make their dreams become reality -- the SBA, the Small Business Administration. And we want to pay tribute to its dynamic new administrator Pat Saiki -- a good friend, feisty, outspoken leader, but unfortunately she couldn't be with us today; her husband, Dr.

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Stanley Saiki, passed away unexpectedly last week. And our thoughts and prayers are with Pat and her family.

The SBA will play an increasingly vigorous role in this nation's life as we enter the 21st century. Small business has become the chief supplier of new American jobs and opportunities. Many of the great innovations that will change our lives will spring from small business. It really is the place where the future takes shape. Small businesses reward innovation, create jobs, and give people the means by which to claim their piece of the American Dream.

Small businesses of America, we salute you, and we offer you our admiration, our respect and our gratitude. Thank you for your example. And may God bless you all. (Applause.)

Q How you feeling today?

Q How are you today?

Q Can you show it to us?

Q Show it to us.

THE PRESIDENT: Do you think I'm Lyndon Johnson?

Q Have you given up coffee altogether, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Not altogether, I don't think. I'm on Sanka and a decaf now.

(Laughter.) Q Are you going to have caffeine withdrawal?

END

10:16 A.M. EDT

- tional Atomic Energy Agency safeguards; and
- continue to support the eventual creation of a regional nuclear weapon-free zone.

Chemical Weapons

The proposal will build on the President's recent initiative to achieve early completion of the global chemical weapons convention.

The initiative calls for all states in the region to commit to becoming original parties to the convention.

Given the history of possession and use of chemical weapons in the region, the initiative also calls for regional states to institute confidence-building measures now by engaging in presignature implementation of appropriate chemical weapons convention provisions.

Biological Weapons

As with the approach to chemical weapon controls, the proposals build on an existing global approach. The initiative would

- call for strengthening the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) through full implementation of existing BWC provisions and an improved mechanism for information exchange. These measures will be pursued at the five-year Review Conference of the BWC this September;
- urge regional states to adopt biological weapons confidence-building measures.

This initiative complements our continuing support for the continuation of the U.N. Security Council embargo against arms transfers to Iraq, as well as the efforts of the U.N. Special Commission to eliminate Iraq's remaining capabilities to use or produce nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and the missiles to deliver them.

Remarks at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy Commencement Ceremony in Quantico, Virginia May 30, 1991

Thank you all very much. And Mr. Attorney General, Dick Thornburgh, thank you, sir. May I salute Director Sessions, a friend

of longstanding, a man in whose service I take great pride. I'm delighted that our drug czar, Bob Martinez, former Governor, is with us here today. I salute all the members, top-level members, of the law enforcement community that are with us here today.

I'm delighted to see our landlord, General Al Gray, who heads the Marine Corps and to whom we all owe a vote of gratitude and thanks for the way he and those Marines performed in Desert Storm. Al, we're delighted to see you here. And I'm delighted to be here, though I think that, on my way in, I may have spotted Hannibal the Cannibal in the audience. *[Laughter]* For those parents and others, that's an inside joke that I'm not sure I understand myself, but nevertheless—*[laughter]*.

And of course, a special congratulations to today's newest Special Agents, the class of '91-6th. And given my doctors' orders—current orders—I'm glad it was you and not me who had to make it through the "Yellow Brick Road" in order to be here today. *[Laughter]* But my heartfelt congratulations to you. And I share in the pride that your families all have in you today.

Speaking of my health, which I am reluctant to do, but you might know that I just received a note—a true story—from a farmers' organization. And it said: "This wouldn't have happened if you had eaten your broccoli." *[Laughter]* I don't want to get in a fight with them; just give me thyroid problems any day. *[Laughter]*

But I'm very proud to be here saluting the FBI for its "fidelity, bravery, and integrity." And I'm proud to salute this class for its "courage, commitment, and common sense." But I've got a problem. I don't want to embarrass a fellow Texan, but tell me, Bill, how come, under the jurisdiction of the Director of the FBI, there's a little Virginia town that has the highest crime rate in the Nation? And after looking around there today—and, Tony, thank you so much for you and your able compatriots showing me all this. But after looking around there today, there's one thing I know for sure: No matter how persuasive you are, after I leave the White House, I am not retiring to Hogan's Alley. *[Laughter]* Once is enough.

But you young men and women graduating today have already solved your share of these Hogan's Alley crimes. And now you're going out to face the real thing. And we are grateful to you. You're joining an FBI that plays an essential role in preserving the peace of our country—investigating violations of Federal law in criminal and civil and counter-intelligence fields. But there's something else very special about the FBI, beyond its crime-fighting role. The Bureau sets an example for the country in showing how citizens and different levels of government can work together to meet our most important challenges.

The concept of teamwork between individuals and the various levels of government lies at the heart of the FBI's mission. And frankly, we need to work together across this land to battle the scourge of violent crime that threatens our homes, our families, and our future.

Last year, six million American citizens—six million—fell victim to violent crime. Violent crime claimed the lives of over 20,000 Americans. Look at the statistics and a frightening fact emerges: Our streets posed a greater threat to our own service men and women than did the foes in the Middle East. We deserve better than that as a nation. Our children—God bless our children—and they deserve better than that. And we will, with your help and your leadership, take back our streets.

In May of 1989, I stood in the rain on the steps of the Capitol with some of the law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line for all of us. Together, we called on the United States Congress to pass our crime package, legislation designed to protect our cops by giving them the tools they need to get their job done. And yes, it was tough legislation, but it was fair legislation. Today, almost exactly 2 years later, I stand here in the midst of another group of law enforcement officers. Two years have passed and Congress still has not acted on our request.

Earlier this year, the Attorney General and I convened an unprecedented crime summit. We called upon the finest minds in American law enforcement. And in March, following the summit, and taking into account what we learned there, we sent a crime bill to Congress. Our Comprehensive

Violent Crime Control Act of 1991 will confront the terrifying spiral of lawlessness. It will strengthen our Nation's criminal justice system, too often unfairly loaded against dedicated law enforcement officials.

The act has four major elements. First, habeas corpus reform. We're determined to free the courts from frivolous, repetitive delays, gimmicks and challenges from people who have already exhausted their legal appeals. Our bill will ensure that convicted felons will no longer evade punishment by drowning justice in a sea of legal challenges unrelated to guilt or innocence.

The second major element is exclusionary rule reform. It is simply intolerable that armed criminals go free when law enforcement officers have collected solid evidence in good faith efforts to follow court guidelines.

Our bill limits the possibility of releasing violent criminals on the basis of legal technicalities. It permits juries to consider evidence that's been gathered by officers acting in good faith. This will avoid situations like that of the DC drug squad. At a bus station, they seized a bag they believed contained cocaine. They called the prosecutors and were told that they didn't need a warrant to search. Sure enough, they found a large supply inside. And sure enough, the evidence was ruled inadmissible, even though they'd acted in total good faith. Our bill would assure that such evidence survives in court. In addition, it allows introduction into evidence of firearms seized from dangerous criminals, no matter how officers obtain those weapons. And that makes sure, then, that those who misuse firearms are caught and punished. Plain and simple.

And third, more categories of firearm offenses and penalties. Under this bill, drug traffickers and violent felons who use semi-automatic weapons will face stiff mandatory sentences. First-time felons caught with firearms will spend 5 years behind bars. No plea bargains. No early release. Our bill also creates new Federal offenses for firearms, theft, and smuggling. We will silence the illegal guns that blast away in our streets, in our homes, and around our schools by punishing the violent criminals who misuse guns.

And our fourth core provision is for the restoration of the Federal death penalty. We need an enforceable Federal death penalty for the most heinous crimes—for the senseless murder of a Federal judge; or the terrorist killing of civilians; or the cold-blooded execution of a law enforcement officer or Federal witness. We should give juries the option of imposing the death penalty for such depraved crimes. And we must send the strongest possible message to those who would commit such crimes. We must tell them that our society will protect itself from violent predators.

And for more than a decade now Congress has talked about reinstating the Federal death penalty. And now, frankly, Congress should act. In that way, we will be telling victims and the families of victims that we will not forget their suffering, their loss. We will be telling them there that we're doing everything we can to ensure that others don't suffer similar fates.

But crime victims deserve more than compassion. They also deserve action. And that's why I take particular pride in the fact that, working with Congress, we have already not only reauthorized the 1984 Victims of Crime Act but have also boosted its annual victims compensation and assistance fund to \$150 million. Those are dollars that come, not from taxpayers but, as you all know, from the fines and penalties levied against criminals.

But of course, the best way, the best way to help the victims of crime is to make sure that they don't become victims in the first place. And so, in our crime bill we've strengthened the core proposals with some potent new additions. Our act includes sections designed to curb terrorism, racial injustice, sexual violence, and juvenile crime. It requires appropriate drug testing as a condition of post-conviction release for Federal prisoners. It outlines protections for witnesses and for abused kids. The bill makes it easier for Federal officials to prosecute those who commit acts of sexual violence involving children. It provides for HIV testing of accused sex offenders. And it guarantees a victim's right to address the court at sentencing.

Listen to these words: "The land is full of bloody crime and the city is full of violence." The Prophet Ezekiel wrote that

over 2,000 years ago. The battle between good and evil still rages. But our crime bill will strengthen the hand of good, that's your hand, the hand of our nation's law enforcement professionals.

The American people, frankly, are tired of talk. I believe they want action. In March, we asked the Congress to pass a crime bill within 100 days; I challenged them at a joint session up there. And so far, 85 days have passed and neither House has chosen to take up our crime package. The 100 days will expire on June 14th, but as you know, the crime issue will not. America wants real, comprehensive action against crime. America wants it done right, and it wants it done now. And I assure you, so do I.

Finally, there's another more subtle threat to the peace, and that's racial strife. For the past couple of years, the issue of civil rights has divided Americans. Our position as an administration is clear, and believe me, I'm telling you this from the heart. I want to sign a civil rights bill. I am proud of my record on civil rights, and I'm proud of my administration's record on civil rights. But we want to sign a bill that advances the cause of equal opportunity. We want to sign a bill that advances the cause of racial harmony. And we want to sign a bill that encourages people to work together.

Unfortunately, congressional leaders again want to pass a bill that would lead employers to adopt hiring quotas and unfair job preferences. This week, they proposed an antiquota amendment to take care of the problem—the quota problem—they said didn't exist.

This shouldn't fool anyone. If you look closely at the amendment, you'll see that it endorses quotas. Even the section that supposedly outlaws quotas endorses quotas. It defines the "Q" word—as it's come to be known—it defines the "Q" word so narrowly that it would allow employers to establish personnel systems based on numbers, not on merit. Other sections rig the rules against employers. If their numbers aren't right, the employers are essentially helpless to defend themselves in court. And another section of the bill forbids many victims of

illegal quotas from even getting their day in court.

If you listen to proponents of this bill, you'll hear another interesting thing. You'll hear them boast their approach makes it easier to prosecute and sue people. Well frankly, this is hardly the road to racial harmony. It's the road to lawsuits and discord.

And so, let's start over. Let's make harmony our goal. A good place to start is our own bill, the administration's civil rights bill. You see, our bill would punish vigorously those who practice prejudice in the workplace. It would not offer a blank check to lawyers and special interests. It, frankly, would offer a helping hand to victims of racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination. It would build on the strong and just laws that we already have. And I'd like to sign it, along with our crime bill, and I'd like to sign it soon.

I'm very proud to be with you law enforcement officials. And I want you to know that you have the public's support—never doubt that—you have the public's support and gratitude. You have all of our support. And, very candidly, you've earned it. You deserve our admiration, our respect, and the best, toughest anticrime package your grateful nation can give you. No more loopholes, no more rolls of the dice. It's time. It's long past time.

So, once again, I was just delighted when the Attorney General and the Director asked me to come down here to see you in action, to salute this graduating class.

Congratulations to the graduates, to their families on this very special day. And the best of luck to all of you. And may God be with you. Thanks to all the FBI and DEA Agents here, to the State, and to the local and international police officers and the FBI National Academy and, again, to your landlords, the United States Marines: May God bless you all. And may God bless the United States of America.

Thank you very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 2:10 p.m. in the auditorium of the administration building. In his remarks, he referred to William S. Sessions, Director, and Anthony E. Daniels, Assistant Director (Training Division), of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

May 30, 1991

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

I hereby report to the Congress on developments since my last report of November 29, 1990, concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order No. 12170 of November 14, 1979, and matters relating to Executive Order No. 12613 of October 29, 1987. This report is submitted pursuant to section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c). This report covers events through March 31, 1991, including those that occurred since my last report dated November 29, 1990. That report covered events through September 30, 1990.

1. Since my last report, both the Iranian Transactions Regulations ("ITRs"), 31 CFR Part 560, and the Iranian Assets Control Regulations ("IACRs"), 31 CFR Part 535, have been amended. Copies of these amendments are attached. The ITRs were amended on March 15, 1991, 56 FR 11100, to permit the issuance of specific licenses authorizing the case-by-case importation of Iranian oil in situations where the import transaction is in resolution of an outstanding claim against Iran before the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague or otherwise results in the payment of the full proceeds from the sale of the Iranian oil into the Tribunal's Security Account. Permitting the importation of Iranian oil under these conditions is intended to promote the settlement of certain claims pending before the Tribunal and to replenish the Security Account from which monetary claims are paid to the U.S. claimant.

The IACRs were amended on February 15, 1991, 56 FR 6546, to comply with an arbitral award issued by the Tribunal which found that the United States Government had violated the Algiers Accords by licensing various U.S. account parties to open blocked reserve accounts on their books to cover amounts demanded by an Iranian beneficiary under a standby letter of credit

quotas. And at one point last year, we had an agreement that would bring all sides together. But the beltway interest groups refused. They wanted a political win. They wanted to grind me into the political dirt.

And we have a good record on civil rights. And we had a good history of fair play. And I want a fair, strong antidiscrimination bill that will guarantee worker's rights, women's rights, workplace rights, but will not create quotas. And P.S.—P.S.—[laughter]—I want a bill that will help all working men and women and not one that will produce a bonanza for avaricious lawyers. And now you know my position.

If you listen to these talk shows you wouldn't even know we have a civil rights bill up there. [Laughter] You see the same ones, hey? [Laughter]

Today, you have my word: Whatever happens to this bill—and I feel this in my heart—I will continue to work for racial harmony and fair play and against discrimination in the workplace.

We want to build a society of shared hopes and helping hands, a society in which all benefit from growth and prosperity. We want to make this kind of society—a good society—the hallmark of our administration.

In closing, let me say that this administration will not waver in its devotion to free enterprise. All of us here know that no experience can match the scary thrill of striking out and starting a business. Nothing better tests your mettle. And as we prepare to launch ourselves into the next American century, we must do the three things I've outlined today: We must encourage enterprise, sweep away unnecessary barriers to growth, and fend off attempts to place chains on entrepreneurs.

We want a free society, a just society, a fair society. But we also want a society brightened by growth and hope. And you know, each in your own way, in your own communities, you promote that dream every day. And we will encourage you every single step of the way.

Thank you. May God bless you all. And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 1:04 p.m. in the Regency Ballroom at the Capitol Hill Hyatt Regency. In his remarks, he referred

to John Sloan, president and chief executive officer of the National Federation of Independent Business, and Patricia F. Saiki, Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Remarks to the National Education Goals Panel

June 3, 1991

Well, thank you very much, Governor Romer. And what I really wanted to do is to come over and join my colleagues from the Department of Education—particularly our Secretary—in thanking this busy and distinguished group of Governors who are taking the lead on our educational reform.

Roy, at the outset, thank you, sir, as chairman. And let me say, we are enthused over your concept of this interim council—very much so—and delighted that you and Carroll are willing to undertake that commitment.

I'm pleased to be here with the National Education Goals Panel as you tackle tough work on behalf of the entire country. And all of us feel that you're doing a great job. And I want especially to thank the Governors who spent so much of the past year traveling—as Roy said—around the country and traveling to Washington to deal with this challenging assignment. We all owe a great debt to Governor Romer and to his colleagues for their important work on this panel. And so, thank you all very, very much.

You know, there are only a few moments in our lives when we are called upon to join a crusade, and I honestly believe this is one of them. We have a crisis in American education, and we've simply got to do something about it.

I just came from a meeting with the National Federation of Independent Businesses—NFIB. And I talked to them about economic growth—something we can't achieve without an educated, motivated work force. Education is vital to everything we are and everything we can become. But look at the facts. Eight years ago, the National Commission on Excellence in Education published its powerful indictment of our schools. And

yet today, ours is still, remember, a "nation at risk."

And at the same time, we remain devoted to education. If you talk to parents, you'll hear that nothing is more important. No nation on Earth believes as deeply as we do in the value and the importance of education. People from coast to coast have begun the hard work of educational reform.

I had an inspiring day with Lamar out in Minnesota the other day. You could just feel their commitment to revolutionary new methods in this one little corner of our great country.

The nonpartisan Federal-State—and let me emphasize that word again, nonpartisan—Federal-State partnership brought this issue to the forefront of the national agenda a couple of years ago. And we brought the Nation's Governors together—or they came together with us—for an unprecedented education summit at the home of Thomas Jefferson, a true education President. The Governors weren't worried about their place in history. They came to work. And as they did—a compact emerged—one that rests not on flowery promises but on a challenge to raise our expectations and achieve concrete results.

We resolved then to become an America of tougher standards, higher goals, and bigger dreams. And 5 months later, after reaching out to educators and parents and civic leaders, the Governors and I adopted six national education goals for the year 2000. This audience is familiar with them, but let me click them off: readiness for school; school completion; student achievement and citizenship; science and math supremacy; adult literacy and lifetime learning; and safe, drug-free schools.

And these goals were in our minds as we developed one of the administration's most exciting initiatives, a comprehensive educational reform challenge known as America 2000. America 2000 calls for a revolution in American education. It challenges all Americans to raise expectations, to pledge genuine accountability, and above all, to create a new generation of American schools. It sets out to transform a nation at risk into a nation of students. And it urges everyone to

make our communities places where learning will happen.

And now we're here with a team that figures prominently in the America 2000 game plan, the National Education Goals Panel. The panel's charge is to hold us accountable. It will report on the Nation's and the States' progress toward meeting our education goals. In meetings with educational experts and in regional forums across the country, this, again, nonpartisan panel has already launched a national dialog about how to measure our own educational progress.

I know that the members were hard at work earlier today, defining the first education report card to the Nation. And they'll issue that report in September, on the second anniversary of the education summit. This and subsequent reports, will do more than simply monitor our progress. They will use our new national standards. They will supply clear direction to our efforts. And they will help promote accountability and promote excellence.

This panel's work will hold a mirror up to the Nation and force us to take an honest look at ourselves and at our schools. And when we look in that mirror, we'll see that our actions can and will make a difference.

So, that's where we are right now, poised to rise to the challenge. But there's something else. National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as NAEP, is about to release a report. It will tell us what we already know, that we have work to do. It will show that the level of student performance varies widely across the country and that we're not measuring up.

I want to talk directly to every parent, student, teacher, and administrator, and elected official in this country. When you see the NAEP—N-A-E-P—when you see the NAEP report, view it as evidence that we need high national standards to serve as an incentive for every student. View it as a personal call to accountability and to action. This panel will. It will use this assessment as its benchmark, a reminder of what we must achieve.

It will take a long time. For instance, this panel's charge is for a decade. And it will take a lot of tough work. It will take energy

and determination and imagination. But those are the building blocks of the American spirit.

But we're armed for this battle. Fortunately, our kids give us a great secret weapon. They are the best natural resource of any nation on Earth. We've seen our young people perform in the Persian Gulf, and we've seen what they can do. And they inspire us to reinvent our educational system. We must forge a system worthy of them. We've got to create a system that will help them compete in the world of the 21st century and one that will let them be the very best in that world. They can be the best, and they will be the best.

Teachers—bless them—also provide an incredible resource, like teacher Danford Sakai of Waiakea High School. He summed up what we need in this battle when he called for, "commitment, caring, common sense, communication, and courage."

I really, Governor Romer, want to thank this panel on behalf of the country. Your meeting certainly makes this an important day, a concrete beginning and pledge of commitment. You are our navigator, guiding us toward this new world of standards of excellence in education.

And as we prepare to confront what may be the most pressing crisis of our society, a favorite quote comes to mind: "Whatever you can do—or dream you can do—begin it. For boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."

We can respond to that call together. We can dream bold dreams and unleash the power and magic that are, indeed, the genius of the American spirit. And that's how we can reinvent American education.

Thank you all very much for giving your time to your country in this manner. We are very, very grateful to you. And may God bless our country. Thank you so much.

Note: The President spoke at 1:30 p.m. in the Independence "A" Ballroom of the Grand Hyatt Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander; Gov. Roy Romer of Colorado, chairman of the panel; and Gov. Carroll A. Campbell, Jr., of South Carolina, a member of the panel.

Proclamation 6300—Flag Day and National Flag Week, 1991

June 3, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We call her "Old Glory," but the splendor of our flag is ever new, and the principles for which she stands are timeless. When adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777, our flag became the symbol of a Nation that was founded on the conviction "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Throughout our Nation's history, brave and selfless Americans have labored and sacrificed to defend these ideals, and in every generation they have given renewed meaning to our flag.

Earlier in this century President Woodrow Wilson noted that the American flag "is the embodiment not of a sentiment but of a history" Indeed, this is what sets the flag apart from other American symbols—no other standard has been carried into battle by generations of American heroes; no other banner recalls the extraordinary achievements of our farmers and workers; and no other emblem symbolizes to more people what America means to the world. For millions of people around the globe, the Stars and Stripes has been a symbol of freedom, strength, and opportunity—a sign of safe haven and hope for the future. For countless others, it has been a sign of help and comfort—a symbol of the traditional generosity and compassion of the American people toward the poor, the hungry, and the dispossessed.

Although our annual observance of Flag Day is rich in emotion, it is not an exercise in mere sentimentalism. It is a day of proud yet meaningful reflection on our national experience and purpose—an occasion made all the more significant this year by the 200th anniversary of our Bill of Rights and by the outstanding performance of our troops in the liberation of Kuwait.

To commemorate the adoption of our flag, the Congress, by a joint resolution ap-

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 13, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN

Washington, D.C.

10:02 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very, very much. We have a tent, we have clowns. What else is there? (Laughter.) This is wonderful.

Listen, thanks, for that warm welcome. Barbara and I have been looking forward to this. And I want to acknowledge a special friend of yours, a friend of medicine's who came out with me here today, our Secretary of HHS Dr. Lou Sullivan. (Applause.) We just came from the Rose Garden where we talked about the importance of childhood immunization. And I want to tell you, the more I see and listen to our Secretary, whom we've known before he became Secretary -- Morehouse School of Medicine, where he was the head -- the more I respect his work for this country, particularly for the children of this country.

We're also honored to have with us today, resplendent in uniform, Dr. Antonia Novello, with such a poignant firsthand knowledge she has of the critical need for this kind of hospital of compassion. And a special greeting to Dr. Constance Battle, who I met, the hospital CEO, medical director and guiding spirit. (Applause.)

And to Stephen Montgomery, the introducer, the chairman of this hospital's board -- a person who epitomizes what we refer to as the points of light. Let me say to you and all the other volunteers and all the others that give their lives to helping others here, we are very, very grateful to you.

And to the representatives of the District that are with us today, may I salute you. And welcome also to the doctors, the nurses, the therapists, the aides, the volunteers who fill these halls with life and love. A special welcome -- a special welcome -- to the parents who are here. But even more than that, most of all to the kids themselves right over here. (Applause.)

Barbara and I are thrilled to be here. She heard that 62 years ago, the First Lady, Mrs. Herbert Hoover, laid the cornerstone of the main building here. And so she and I are both thrilled that we'll get to do this job today. (Applause.) She talked with me about her very moving visits here, and she speaks for the mothers' special love for those most in need.

Some of you kids have been to our house, the White House, the people's house, when you've come for Christmas tours. But I wanted to see this place for myself. And you know something, I'm sure that Barbara's stories even didn't prepare me for the majesty of this place. I expected to feel sadness when I got out of the car, and I felt a sense of joy and real hope projected by those who have committed a lot of their lives to helping others here. As parents, we desperately want to protect our kids; we want to spare them pain or fear. And that's why our hearts go out to families whose kids lie in incubators or cribs, wheelchairs behind the walls here. And it's hard to face a world in which your children suffer. You ride an emotional rollercoaster, and you must draw upon all reserves of courage and love and certainly faith just to make it through each day.

MORE

These marvelous kids -- and I wish all of you could see them from this vantage point, at least the ones we have with us -- have won their first great battle, the battle for life. And now they're fighting the battle for recovery. And my money's on them; I believe they're going to make it. (Applause.) And they're being very good listening to all of this. (Laughter.) And this is the place where they start. It may be hard for some of us to walk into a hospital, I confess that myself, but you get drawn into the drama of life within its walls. And you see notes at the end of the cribs, I'm told, "She smiles when tummy is rubbed," or "He reaches for panda when it's moved away." Some tiny bodies bear the marks of what brought them here, regrettably, society's ailments: abuse, accidents, drugs. But the staff's love and care casts a special light upon everything.

I was reminded of a Bible verse that describes apostles who did their work because it was right: "We were gentle among you like a nurse taking care of her children." The Bible says that. Gentle among us like the nurse in a rocking chair, cradling an infant swathed in tubes, or the one who dressed the comatose girl in a new dress. The little girl in her twilight world will never see her outfit, but it shows that somebody cares. Gentle like the senior citizen volunteer sitting next to a window, feeding the blind toddler on his lap. The caregivers have created within a maze of machines and respirators a human world. A community of hugs and kisses. A world where people talk not of how sick the kids are -- that's with them every day -- but of how well they can be. A world where a nurse, explaining why she does what she does, says without pausing to think it over, "They feel our love."

You know, when you're dealing in medicine, whether you're a doctor or not, we toss around the word "miracle" a lot. But this hospital reminds of its true meaning. A real miracle is saving one child. It's watching a toddler take that first unassisted breath in his life. It's seeing a young girl, paralyzed from the neck down, learning to draw with her mouth. Well, Betta, I'm talking about you. (Applause.) Or it's saying good-bye to a boy who came 14 months ago as a premature newborn and who will be leaving next month, going home with his mom and dad. (Applause.)

Really, I think, that's the legacy of the Hospital for Sick Children. It's a legacy that must spread. I was amazed to hear that this is one of only a handful of similar hospitals in this country. We need more places like this -- transitional care facilities for kids who no longer require a hospital's acute care, but who aren't well enough to go home yet. We need communities like this where parents can apply the salve of love and can learn how to care for their kids in the years ahead. And the staff here, I'm told, is developing a magnificent program that shows how to set up this kind of hospital.

I hope health care professionals across this country will learn from it and go on to develop more facilities like this one. They're cost-effective. They work. They stabilize children and give them the best possible chance to live and to recover. We'll need more such centers since the technologies that save lives also create more long-term health challenges.

Barbara's told me that you always have a waiting list here. She's also told me that you never turn away any children whose families cannot pay. (Applause.) And I look at your plans for expansion and think of how many more lives you'll be able to reach out and touch.

The Hospital for Sick Children is a hidden treasure. And it brings out the hidden treasure in kids who otherwise might have been forever forgotten. No one who walks through your doors can leave without feeling a kind of awe. You bring alive the prayer of St. Francis, "Where there is despair, let me sow hope. Where there is darkness, light. And where there is sadness, joy".

And thank you for the life-transforming love that you show. Barbara and I will never forget this place (any of you). And may God bless you for your inspiring work and the very special kids that you love.

Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

END

10:12 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)

For Immediate Release

June 16, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER DINNER

The Century Plaza Hotel
Los Angeles, California

7:20 P.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Let me first thank my dear friend, Jerry Weintraub, for that generous introduction. And thanks to Wilson Phillips for the Anthem so beautifully done. My thanks to Tony Danza for being here. (Laughter.) Had to go out and get a haircut so we would recognize him. (Laughter.) But what a good man he is.

And Barbara and I are just delighted to be here tonight. We wanted to specially be here to salute our -- yours and our -- guest of honor. As you may know, Arnold -- Arnold Schwarzenegger -- spent a day with us up at Camp David -- and competing with Barbara in tobogganing, she broke her leg. (Laughter.) Then, Arnold spent a day with us at the White House promoting fitness -- and I ended up in the hospital with arterial fibrillation, or something like that. (Laughter.) You'll never eat lunch in my town again, Arnold. (Laughter.) But I'm delighted to see you. Come to think of it, you could be my special emissary to Congress. (Laughter.) Talk about "The Terminator." (Applause.)

Honestly, though, this guy is a wonderful choice, wonderful choice for your National Leadership Award. He embodies the good, essential values of this world -- values like caring and fairness and faith. He's simply a decent, nice human being. And congratulations, my friend. And thank you for honoring this wonderful American. (Applause.)

I also want to pay a special tribute to Gayle Wilson. Sorry Pete couldn't be with us tonight; he's up wrestling with the budget problems. And to Senator John Seymour, our wonderful new Senator in the United States Senate; to David Dreier, who's with us tonight -- down here -- a fine member of the United States Congress. I'm told Mayor Bradley was to be here. I haven't seen him. But anyway, I wanted to salute him. We're in his city and delighted to be here. (Applause.) Is he there? Well, Tom, I can't see you, but nice to see you. (Laughter.)

And all the friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center who are here tonight. The Counsel General of Israel is with us, Ron Ronen. And it's a particular pleasure to see our friend, the Bushes' friend, Rabbi Hier, again. Thank you, sir, for that honor, that beautiful cup. And let me just say that your vision, your conscience and commitment set a challenge for us all. I will cherish this sacred gift of this Cup of Elijah. To you, "I lift up the cup of redemption in thanks and gratitude." (Applause.)

Let me say that I've heard that at Seder this Cup of Elijah is filled, as he just said, with wine -- and with the promise of redemption. I know the verse that says Elijah "shall turn the heart of the parents to the children, and the heart of the children to their parents." I really hope that this symbolic gift can challenge us to do the same -- to reclaim our soul through the love of the human family. A love born of remembrance.

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Let me just make a few comments, eating before the broccoli is served -- (laughter) -- and asking your forgiveness for pushing on. We have a big day tomorrow, off in Colorado and Wisconsin, before returning to Washington. So please forgive us. But let me just say a word about this Center and for the man it's named for. The extraordinary hero that this Center honors is our living embodiment of remembrance. The two pledges of Simon Wiesenthal's life inspire us all -- "Never forget" and "Never again."

He reminds us that we as a people must study closely the lessons of the concentration camps. Any, yes, like many here, Barbara and I have been to Auschwitz. We've seen the images of human evil. And literally, when I left, I left part of me. But I took something away in its place -- the determination not just to remember, but also to act.

I say this to you as a World War II veteran -- as an American -- and now as President of the United States -- the haunting images compel us to guard against tyranny and inhumanity. Remembering makes us strong. Remembering makes us act. (Applause.)

But there's something else. We must also remember something more powerful than the horror -- the triumph of the inextinguishable human spirit. Those who survived the Holocaust could have sunk into hate and revenge. Instead, they lifted themselves -- and all of humanity -- toward a greater goal. I believe that the ultimate lesson here is the transcendent glory of survival. Hope triumphed over horror. Life triumphed over death.

And we must also remember the story of a single life. In this case, the story of a great man named Raoul Wallenberg. A story brought to the conscience of the world by another great man -- the one whose name this Center bears. When I was over with Barbara in Budapest we went to Raoul's memorial to pay tribute. His actions embodied the highest ideals of human decency and morality -- a hero of our times. We owe him not only tribute, not only remembrance -- but also commitment, to have a full and final accounting of his precious life. (Applause.)

We all know Elie Wiesel. He dedicates his life to the Holocaust and its victims because "anyone who does not remember betrays them again." The freedom we enjoy carries a profound responsibility. Now the victims of other human rights abuses call to us daily from across the globe. In the memory of the millions who died -- we must not forget. We must not close our hearts. We must not fail to act.

We've been acting for years to promote freedom in the Soviet Union, including the freedoms of religion and emigration. That action has paid off. Jews in the Soviet Union can now study Hebrew. Jews who choose to leave can do so. Some delays, admittedly, but they can leave. Hundreds of thousands have made aliyah to Israel. This is freedom in action.

In the Gulf, Simon Wiesenthal was among the first to speak out against Saddam Hussein's brutality. He said: "Silence is admittance. We cannot tolerate silence." It was because of Saddam's aggression that we made our stand in the Persian Gulf. The world had ignored the brewing madness 50 years ago. We would not make the same mistake this time. It was a moral imperative to act.

As I contemplated as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces what action to take against Saddam Hussein's aggression, I thought of the world's inaction those many years ago when first the army and then the SS marched into Poland. It was on my mind as I had to make this fateful decision to send our sons and daughters into combat in the Gulf.

And then there's exciting and emotional freeing of the Ethiopian Jews that was referred to a minute ago. Rudy Boschwitz, a former United States Senator, a wonderful man, was our special

emissary. Recently in the Rose Garden, I was privileged to honor him, Bob Frasure of the National Security Council, Irvin Hicks of the State Department, Robert H. K. there in our Embassy -- embattled Embassy in Addis Ababa. For their extraordinary actions we honored them, helping in what turned out to be one of the most intense humanitarian airlifts in history. Thanks in considerable part to the efforts of the United States -- a lot of people in the United States -- the Ethiopian Jews were delivered from harm's way within 30 hours -- reunited with loved ones and given the opportunity to begin new lives in Israel. What a joyous, wonderful homecoming. (Applause.)

These events remind us that Israel was created as a refuge for Jews who face or flee persecution. So our challenge is to make Israel truly secure. We learned the hard lesson that geography alone cannot guarantee security for Israel. We've learned that military power alone cannot guarantee her security. Israel and her neighbors will enjoy true and lasting security only when they achieve genuine reconciliation. And that's the goal behind the peace initiative that I launched three months ago.

Our Secretary of State has worked tirelessly to follow up, and direct negotiations between Israel and her neighbors no longer seem such a distant dream. The process we have designed can promote peace -- but only if the parties in the region muster the political will to make it happen. If they do, the issues that divide them will fall away, and the Middle East at last can begin the journey toward lasting peace.

We're here tonight in honor of a place that drives us to use the pain of our past literally to forge a better future. The Simon Wiesenthal Center is not just a museum, although its vivid images will never let the past fade, it's also an activist organization of more than one million members -- one million separate voices bound together in single purpose -- the call for all lives to have meaning, dignity, and hope. (Applause.)

I must say that was running through my mind when the Holocaust survivors brought in the Mauthausen flag. What a story -- those men and women creating out of scraps this symbol of the values that gave them hope. Just think -- those values were the ones upon which this country was founded -- ones we too often take for granted, I'm afraid, in our busy lives. I just wish that every American could hear their story. I wish every American could see this flag and feel the same emotion that I felt when these survivors brought it to this stage.

The values those courageous Jewish victims saw symbolized in our flag became the ones on which they founded their new homeland. These shared values unite our country and Israel in an extraordinary, special kinship. Values like freedom, democracy, morality, respect -- deeply rooted traditions of tolerance, individual rights and liberties. Our countries have forged an unprecedented bond -- a bond of shared ideals, shared struggles, shared commitments.

Tonight, I want to return to those essential, basic values and pledge America's eternal vigilance for justice, peace, and human rights throughout the world. As your President, I say there is no room in America for indifference. The Holocaust must never be dehumanized or dismissed. We pledge it will also never be forgotten. (Applause.)

There is no room in this country for hate crimes. We must raise our voices and the full force of our law against every hate group, desecrator and demagogue, brown shirt or white sheet. We will not be fooled by a change in disguise if corruption and inhumanity still lie buried in their hearts. (Applause.)

There is no room -- no room at all -- in America for bigotry. And we will stand firm against intolerance, racism and discrimination in any form or any place -- in our cities, in our media, in our minds, in our hearts. And we pledge to expose the corrosive hatred of bigotry wherever it festers and to rid our land

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of it for our children's sake. (Applause.)

There is no room in our America, in our world, for anti-Semitism. The insidious ugliness of this cancer destroys the human spirit. We must root it out and conquer it wherever it may start to grow. (Applause.)

There is no room in our world for persecution of a people. We must be committed to the security opportunity and identity for all peoples of the world.

There's no room in our world for persecution of a nation. Israel's survival will be guaranteed. (Applause.) And the best way to do that is through a just and lasting peace.

And above all, we must, each of us, embody in our lives the lesson of this wonderful Center so brilliantly expressed by its hero, Simon Wiesenthal, who reminds us: "Freedom is not a gift from Heaven. One must fight for it every day." And that, my friends, is our final and most important pledge.

Thank you very much for the privilege of sharing this evening with you -- and for the warmth of your friendship, for the dedication of your purpose. And may God bless the United States, the greatest country on the face of the Earth. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

7:43 P.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 24, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN DEDICATION OF THE ZACHARY AND ELIZABETH FISHER HOUSE

The National Naval Medical Center
Bethesda, Maryland

9:25 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Thank you, Secretary. What a beautiful day out here at Bethesda. Please be seated and thank you. Thank you, Secretary Garrett. And good morning, Admiral Lichtman. Thank you and all your associates for this warm welcome. I want to, of course, single out Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher for their generosity, not just for this, but for others to follow.

I want to, with the risk of embarrassment, say that coming in I congratulated Admiral Trost, our former CNO, for his vision in getting this program underway. And everybody jumped all over me and said, it's not Carl, it's Pauline. So we salute her as well, and both of them for their vision.

It's a special day for Barbara and me, coming back here to Bethesda to see an exceptional group of people. Glad we don't have to stay this time. (Laughter.) But it does give me an opportunity seeing so many familiar faces on my tiny, minor problem -- with my tiny, minor problem in mind, to just say thank you. For those who have not been inside this place as a patient, the care and the concern for everybody -- all the patients that I visited with telling me this -- is just unbelievable. And it's typical of hospitals, of course, all across this country, but we saw it firsthand. And I extend you all my heartfelt thanks. No fibrillation, just bringing it on out -- (laughter) -- and would give you this report. Over the weekend, I played three hard sets of tennis, ran two miles, hit some golf balls. So lest there be any doubts about the efficiency of Navy medicine, why, Admiral, I'm back 100 percent.

And true story and perhaps of not much interest, but I got this letter from a farmers' group during my recovery: "This wouldn't have happened if you'd eaten your broccoli." (Laughter and applause.) I would rather risk refibrillation, but that's my position. (Laughter.) But there's -- a lot goes on at this medical center that's inspiring. I again commend the dedication of the doctors and the nurses, the corpsmen; all who make life so pleasant for people that are under stress and strain -- some of whom are just back from the Gulf, I might add, some of the professionals; and others who are still caring for some of the cases right here at the main hospital for those who really suffered, really got hurt in Desert Storm.

And so today we celebrate something else that makes this place remarkable -- the opening of this Elizabeth and Zachary Fisher House. The gift of two longtime friends of ours. Barbara and I have have known the Fishers for many, many years. I think it dates back, Zach, to 1971 when I was Ambassador at the U.N. But his building will provide lodging for military families who have come to visit their seriously ill or injured loved ones.

With pride I tell you that Barbara Bush has been very helpful in encouraging this kind of dwelling -- the Ronald McDonald Houses that so many of you know about that are connected with the

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many other hospitals -- civilian hospitals. And she shares my joy in celebrating this one here.

Because a concerned couple cared, this house will become a home to families facing the triple blow of critical illness, financial pressures, and separation. And we had the pleasure of meeting two such families inside -- several such families inside. And I must say, to hear them talk about what this means to them says it all.

Listen to how the Fishers dedicate this house: "To our greatest national treasure, our military men and women and their loved ones." Millions were touched by the sacrifice of our troops, but the Fishers did something. They acted upon this. And I've spoken to a lot of people about our concept of Points of Light -- those who have given themselves to help others. And Elizabeth and Zach are brilliant Points of Light. They saw a need and then they moved in to fill it. They didn't wait for Congress. They didn't wait for a study or a committee hearing. They saw a problem, moved in and solved it.

This kind of dedication and ingenuity has made ours the strongest, and I think the most caring nation in the world. This comfort home is one of seven furnished family retreats that the Fishers are donating to military hospitals across the country. They were inspired by a simple wonderful truth: The most important part of life is being with someone you love, helping someone you love, sharing life with someone you love.

It was a little over a year ago that Barbara spoke up at Wellesley about our philosophy -- I think our country's philosophy. So let me -- possibly risking embarrassing her -- but let me share it with you again today. She said, "You will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict, or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

And on behalf of the families who will find peace in this home and the ill or injured loved ones who will find comfort in their presence, I want to join the rest of you in thanking the Fishers. You really represent this wonderful concept in America. De Tocqueville noticed when he first came here, the propensity of one American to help another. You represent our best. And may I just say to our military men and women with us here today -- the Coast Guard, represented by Admiral Kime, the Navy and other services as well -- thank you for your service to our nation. And may this house bring you comfort in your time of need.

Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

9:31 A.M. EDT

The President. I'm just going to let the words stand just exactly for what they say here. I'm not going to go beyond what I've said on it. There's no point in heightening all this. We'll just leave it there.

Defense Budget

Q. On the budget talks, are Pentagon cuts now off the table, but taxes still on the table?

The President. No, as I said, Pentagon cuts are not. But reckless Pentagon cuts are—we just can't tolerate them. And I think that most Members of Congress will return and understand this now.

Foreign Nationals in Iraq and Kuwait

Q. When did you decide to call them hostages? Last night we were told that you did not regard them as hostages.

The President. Well, I think that when we had a meeting there last night, and then this morning I decided: Look, as long as these demands are being made, why, it's semantical. Why not just say that?

Closing of Embassies in Kuwait

Q. What about them asking us to close our Embassies?

The President. What?

Q. In 5 days they want all the outside Embassies closed—foreign—

The President. For all over, yes. That's unacceptable.

Mobilization of U.S. Reserves

Q. Calling up Reserves?

Q. Are we going to stay?

The President. Well, I'll have something to say on that later on.

Q. Today? Later on today?

United Nations Role in the Persian Gulf Crisis

Q. Are you trying to get more of an international and United Nations leadership—

The President. We're in the United Nations right now, and the United Nations has performed very, very well. And it's important because that keeps world opinion strongly with us. I found out today—talking to Margaret Thatcher [Prime Minister of the United Kingdom] reiterated that.

Thank you all.

Note: The exchange took place approximately at noon en route from Andrews Air Force

Base, MD, to Providence, RI. H. Lee Atwater, chairman of the Republican National Committee, is undergoing treatment for cancer. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at a Republican Party Fundraising Luncheon in North Kingstown, Rhode Island

August 20, 1990

Thank you all very much. Thank you for that warm welcome back. Ed, thank you especially. This may have escaped some, but it has not escaped Barbara and me: Ed DiPrete was perhaps my earliest supporter, or certainly one of them, when I started the quest for the Presidency.

I'm delighted to be here. Slightly—only slightly—disappointed. I kind of expected to be driven up here in Winnebago One. [Laughter] And though Nick Janikies tells me that the club's chef makes terrific broccoli—[laughter]—I understand that the Winnebago is the best place around to get a homemade bologna sandwich. [Laughter] But really, it is a pleasure to be here and to see so many of our other good Rhode Island friends.

You know, I was asked, I think, an appropriate question—not all questions are appropriate, but this one was—by the press coming up. And they said, "Well, don't you feel a little funny going to a political event at this time?" And I knew exactly why the question was asked, and I certainly respect it. But life goes on, and we have an election coming up in the fall. And I think it's important that I conduct my duties of the Presidency in the best way I possibly can. But you can't exclude the fact that there's a lot of things happening. And a lot of it gets right back to the kind of elected officials that we're going to have in the future. And so, I didn't think about changing this event.

And I'm delighted to be here and see so many friends. Of course, Senator Chafee and I go back longer than either of us would like to admit, I'm sure. Claudine Schneider—more later. Ron Machtley, who's doing such an outstanding job as a member of the Armed Services Committee

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and a great Member of the United States Congress, and Norma and Elinor and Ned Grace, who's done such a great job chairing this event. And I might also mention another. If she can save the bay, she ought to be able to save Congress. I'm talking about Trudy Cox sitting over here—and wish her well. But you know, with a strong leadership team like this, elected officials and party leaders, Rhode Island's party, I believe, is headed for victory in November; and it's very important.

I want to give a special thanks to Traf—mayor, my old friend Mayor Traficante—for letting us play through, so to speak. He's got his own golf tournament working, and two things worried my Secret Service agents about that tournament. First, that it's a "shotgun" start. *[Laughter]* And second, that Jerry Ford might be teeing off on the 18th while we're here. *[Laughter]* But we're safe. And, Traf, good to see you.

What a great sight it was as we came in. I must say I was very moved by the response from your fellow Rhode Islanders. And to see the bay, the clean beauty of that bay, as we came in—a sight that we must not and cannot take for granted. And I remember, as you do, last year's oilspill and how Ed, the man on my right, immediately leaped into action and tapped into Federal resources and, indeed, many say, prevented a catastrophe. And that kind of sums up Ed DiPrete: committed to the environment, a take-charge leader.

I've seen his leadership first-hand. I saw it at our education summit with the Governors last year—the first such summit ever held—the one in Charlottesville. He had a tremendous impact with his innovative public-private partnership, the Children's Crusade for Higher Education. And he has a great record in other areas of urgent priorities, where he stands shoulder to shoulder with me, and I'm thinking of our battle that we must win in the war on drugs. One of the most aggressive fighters in the anti-narcotics field is Ed DiPrete. His national leadership for the rights of the people with disabilities is well-known. And I might say parenthetically I was delighted to have worked for and then the other day signed the ADA bill [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990]—long overdue, but a wonder-

ful bill to help those with disabilities in this country.

And all of us familiar with the area know that New England has had a tough time in a lot of ways economically. But I'm proud of the way that he's revitalized economic growth in this State where the American Industrial Revolution began and, in the process, has restored Rhode Island's bond rating, which is a good indication of how others, how the markets, feel about this State. And so, after all, if you want to talk business in Rhode Island, talk to a businessman, talk to the Governor. And I want him there, reelected, strong, at my side as we face the problems coming up for the rest of the nineties.

And now I turn to another Rhode Islander because, very candidly, we need Claudine Schneider in the United States Senate. She's a special friend of mine and of Barbara's and, I'd say, of Rhode Island's. She's one of your best exports. In Washington we're amazed by her vitality, her passionate enthusiasm, and that astounding, almost frustrating energy level of hers that leaves others in the dust. I think I work hard. And I try to. Sometimes play hard. But try to keep up with Claudine, it's impossible. Try to overtake her in a 3K or a 10K or a marathon, it can't be done.

But it's not just in a road race that she's leading the pack. She's a principled, independent leader in the finest tradition of John Chafee, the finest tradition of Rhode Island—tenacious, fierce individualism. She's setting the pace in areas like education and like fighting crime and especially in the worldwide struggle to preserve and protect the environment.

Claudine has been a great Member of the United States Congress. She'll be a great Senator. Rhode Island needs her voice and leadership, and I really do need her in the Senate. The difference between the Senate today and the Senate when it was controlled by the Republicans for a Republican President is night and day. And so, we need her for her own merit, but we also need her to get us back in control of the United States Senate. So, get the message out. Go on and have some more debates, Claudine.

You did just great in the debate, and I hope you have more.

Today I want to just mention a couple of challenges. We've been talking about them here, challenges that our able Members face—Members of Congress. But today two of them—really two of the most critical issues that our nation has faced in decades—I'm talking about our own fiscal affairs, our own budget deficit; and then, of course, the subject that's on everybody's minds, the question of the Middle East.

I have stated here the frustrations of dealing with a Congress that's controlled by the other party and controls the purse strings. And I'll work with the Congress. I have tried to work cooperatively and with compromise with the United States Congress, and I will continue to do that. But we were working towards a budget summit, an economic summit, a summit that would solve once and for all the budget deficit. And that broke up when Congress decided it was time to go on and have the recess. But the Congress comes back soon. And what I want to say to you is: I have not lost my interest in seeing us get a budget agreement that is going to reform the budget process, get the deficit down, and get it under control once and for all. We owe that to the younger generations here today.

This is a national problem, and it isn't going to go away. And sure, it's been affected by events that are happening halfway around the world. But we must not let those events reduce the urgency that we all feel about getting the Federal deficit under control.

I don't intend to dwell on it here, but let me just point out that the House has passed appropriations bills this year exceeding my request by \$14 billion in spending. And the Senate Budget Committee voted a new legislation weakening the budget process. In my view, this is going in the wrong direction. I think we've got to turn around now, get an agreement, and get some reform and get some incentive built into the system.

I know some people think I'm a broken record. But if there ever was a time that you need to stimulate economic growth it's now, and one of the best ways to do that is to reduce the tax on capital gains. It will bring in revenue, and it will create jobs.

You know, I've been blessed by a steadfast group in the House and in the Senate, and I'm very grateful to them. But I must say that if the spending bills continue like this, I have to say, as I've said before in Washington a few weeks ago, that I will veto every single spending bill that busts the budget. We're in that tough a shape now, and I'm going to do it. So, they can mark it down and put it in the bank.

So, I think cooperation is still possible. As I said down there in Washington a couple of weeks ago, I've been pleased with the way some of the Democratic leadership has approached this process. I think Senator Chafee would agree with me, and I think Claudine would agree with me and Ron would agree with me: that there's been some good-faith effort in terms of negotiation. But it is essential now when the Congress comes back that this cooperation be renewed and that it continue because it is our country that's at stake.

Every day now, we're witnessing an extraordinary unity of individuals and of parties and of nations, showing what can happen when people put personal goals aside in pursuit of something bigger. So, even while we're here in this extraordinarily tranquil setting, our thoughts are, indeed, over in the Middle East, where other Americans are seeing not this serene beauty of Narragansett Bay but an arid landscape where the hot desert winds carry, regrettably, the threat of conflict. No sane person likes the specter of confrontations, and yet as we try to chart the course of our existence, we must be guided by the imperatives of a strong moral compass.

It was not with passionate haste but, really, with a heavy heart that I had to commit our troops to Saudi Arabia. I took this action not out of some national hunger for conflict but out of the moral responsibility, shared by so many committed nations around the world, to protect our world from fundamental evil. We cannot remain silent, for peace is more than just the absence of war. And its preservation really exacts on great countries like ours a certain obligation.

It is this obligation that the finest troops—if you talk to the Joint Chiefs, they'll tell you, every one of them, what-

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ever their service, that we have the finest young men and women that the service has ever had, an all-volunteer Army, all-volunteer force, if you will, and the finest young kids ever, suited up and serving. So, it is this obligation that brave men and women are shouldering today in Saudi Arabia—the finest—finest men and women.

But they don't act alone. And this is another key point; Ed and Claudine both referred to it. Nations of every language, of every religion, size, and form of government have joined in renouncing the aggression against Kuwait. It is also important to note that 12 Arab countries condemned Iraq—12 condemned Iraq at the Arab summit and at the United Nations Security Council. And I want to commend Ambassador Pickering and the fine work that our delegation is doing at the United Nations, because it is important that we bring along and lead our friends around the world in this regard. The United Nations Security Council approved chapter VII sanctions on Iraq because of its aggression. It was the first time that's happened in, I think, something like 23 years. We've seen an extraordinary expression of world unity, and I am hopeful that together the United States and the many other peace-loving nations committed to this noble effort will prevail.

I wanted to talk about this because of your State's own history: commitment to individual rights. Your State may be small—Kuwait is small—but your ideals loom large. And you've always responded to the call of moral responsibility. In the early days of this country, Rhode Island answered threats upon individuals by fiercely defending each person's right to believe what he wanted and worship as he or she wished. Just a few minutes ago, in here, I met with leaders of the Touro Synagogue—an impressive, moving story—the oldest synagogue in continental America, a symbol of your State's lifelong affirmation of the inalienable rights of all people. And Rhode Island also responded to the moral obligation to defend these rights when the world was called upon to confront staggering aggression during World War II. Your State answered by sending 58,000 of its finest sons and daughters into battle.

The world is now called upon to confront another aggressor, another threat made by

a person who has no values when it comes to respecting international law, a man of evil standing against human life itself. I am convinced that the same moral underpinnings that have underpinned this State for years and underpin our great country is the compass that's going to guide us. And I believe that our presence in the Middle East sends a great signal of commitment around the world.

I must tell you that I'm troubled by Americans that now seem to be held against their will and other foreigners held against their will.

I'm grateful for our friends. This morning, I had a long talk with President Özal of Turkey on the telephone. If you'll look at the map and then see the courageous stand taken by President Özal and the Turks, you will understand what it means to work cooperatively with other countries, and you'll understand why I am grateful for the full cooperation of this strategically placed ally.

Another talk I had this morning—and one of the reasons I was a little late on this trip—was with Margaret Thatcher [Prime Minister of the United Kingdom]. You talk about somebody that stands tall when the going gets tough, and you talk about somebody that knows what it is to have a moral compass. Thank God for allies and friends like Margaret Thatcher when the going gets tough. And right now, it could get fairly tough over there.

I might say parenthetically I feel blessed as your President by the quality and the character of the leadership in our own government. I can do my job knowing that options come my way; knowing that our team stays together; and knowing I'm relying, perhaps, on the finest Cabinet and the finest people in the Pentagon that any President could have to work with. And I am very grateful to each and every one of them as we approach some very tough decisions that lie ahead.

The bottom line is life goes on. And so, we're here today talking some politics. We're here today talking some fiscal sanity. We're here today to say a prayer for the United States and all the people around the world that are supporting us in our bid to provide a moral compass for the rest of the world.

I am grateful. I am privileged. Even though this time may be a little difficult, I am privileged to be your President in one of the most fascinating times in history. I'll do my best I possibly can. And thank you for your warm hospitality.

Note: The President spoke at 1:45 p.m. on the grounds of the Quidnessett Country Club. In his remarks, he referred to Nicholas Janikies, president of the country club; Norma Willis, State Republican Party chairwoman; Elinor Clapp, Republican national committeewoman; Ned Grace, the luncheon chairman; Trudy Cox, candidate for the House of Representatives and former executive director of the Save the Bay organization; Michael Traficante, mayor of Cranston, RI; and former President Gerald Ford. Following his remarks, the President traveled to his home in Kennebunkport, ME.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on President Bush's Conversations With President François Mitterrand of France and Senator Robert Byrd on the Persian Gulf Crisis
August 20, 1990

President Bush this afternoon telephoned President Mitterrand of France. They spoke for about 30 minutes. President Bush said he appreciated the firm response and leadership that France has taken in this crisis. The two Presidents also discussed their concern about foreign nationals being held hostage in Kuwait and Iraq.

The President also called Senator Robert Byrd, who was in Amsterdam on his way to Turkey. The President discussed the situation in the Gulf with the Senator and certain other matters that might be raised during his trip to Turkey.

Proclamation 6171—National Drive for Life Weekend

August 20, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The Labor Day weekend is an ideal time to remind ourselves of the grave threat posed to each of us by alcohol-impaired driving—a tragic and senseless occurrence that remains our Nation's number one highway safety problem. During this weekend, we should be especially mindful that irresponsible drinking can quickly destroy a festive holiday by causing injury and death.

Last year more than 23,000 people were killed in the United States as a result of alcohol-related highway crashes—an average of 65 individuals each day. Although the proportion of traffic deaths related to alcohol has declined during the last few years, approximately one-half of all fatal motor vehicle crashes continue to be alcohol-related.

The Drive for Life campaign is designed to reduce the high number of alcohol-related traffic accidents in the United States by promoting a month-long public awareness program aimed at educating all Americans on the dangers of drunk driving. By focusing on the Labor Day weekend, when the number of alcohol-related highway crashes traditionally exceeds the average by about 10 percent, the Drive for Life campaign will help to concentrate the Nation's attention on the serious dangers of drunk driving.

During the Labor Day weekend and, indeed, throughout the year, we should also be mindful of the dangers posed by drivers who are impaired by drugs other than alcohol. Certain drugs—legal as well as illegal, and either alone or in combination with alcohol—are major contributors to highway crashes. All of us should be aware of the risks of driving after taking prescribed medications or over-the-counter drugs, especially those that have labels warning against operating a motor vehicle. We should also be aware that combining drugs and alcohol with driving increases these risks.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Akron, Ohio)

For Immediate Release

September 26, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO VOINOVICH FOR GOVERNOR FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

Tangier Restaurant
Akron, Ohio

12:07 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Alex, thank you. Thank you all. What a great welcome back to Akron. Same place -- a couple years later. Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.) Thank you, Mayor -- soon to be Governor -- Voinovich. And Janet, Barbara sends her love. She looks forward to being with you. I don't know whether it's next week or when it is, but she'll be out here to show not only support for the ticket, but to show the affection that she and I have for you and George.

To Mike and Fran DeWine, we wish you well. I can't wait for the day that you are lieutenant governor, but I'm going to be disappointed to have you leave the House of Representatives that you served so very well, indeed.

And, of course, it's like old home week here with Alex -- your Alex, mine. (Laughter.) One of the great political leaders -- and I mean this -- is a former national chairman who, himself, studied under Ray Bliss of Akron and still has great affection in his heart for Ray Bliss. They don't have many political leaders like Alex around this country. And he's good and he's honest and he's decent, and I get fired up every time I'm around him. Alex, thank you for this wonderful event here today. (Applause.) Alex Arshinkoff. (Applause.)

And while we're at it, I want to salute our State Chairman, Bob Bennett over here. The state party has never been more vibrant or supportive of these candidates. (Applause.) Bob, stand up there.

And Senator Roy Ray, one of 10 Republican state legislators out of 3,000 in the country to win the prestigious Legislator of the Year Award. Roy. (Applause.) There he is, right there.

And I want to put in a plug right at the beginning for the strong state ticket we've got. And one of those members is with us today -- I think the only one. If I'm wrong, somebody holler, but Jim Petro, who's running for auditor, standing right here. And it's a very important position -- (applause) -- because it has a lot to do with the redistricting. And we want a fair redistricting, not just in Ohio, but all the way across this country. And his election can contribute to that.

As for Paul Mifsud, over here, who's running the Voinovich campaign -- he's the guy that suggested I meet Gorbachev in Malta. (Laughter.) He's from Malta, you may know. And people are still throwing up over there because of the weather. (Laughter.)

You know, there's a handful of people across the country to whom Barbara and I always will be indebted for the marvelous opportunity to serve in this office that I have now. And one of them is Paul. And he's worked very, very hard, always helpful to me and,

of course, always at George Voinovich's side. So you've got a good team.

I want to apologize for a very close member of my family who couldn't make it today. As it turns out, Millie is on the road, promoting her new book. (Laughter.) Our springer spaniel. I told them last night that her celebrity status has gone to her head. I gave her a bowl of Alpo and she asked to see the wine list there at the White House last night. (Laughter.)

But, look, enough of this. If I seem a little relaxed, it's because you have a wonderful way here in Akron of making a person feel at home. And I really am delighted to be back here, in a state that Barbara and I feel we know very well, indeed. For us, Ohio means Dayton, where Barbara's parents lived; Miami, where both Bar's mother and dad went to college. For me, Columbus, where my father was born and where he grew up. It also means many other things, having campaigned extensively in this state: small-town boulevards of Lima, busy streets of Cincinnati -- I've probably been in Hamilton County as much as everybody in this room put together. It seems like it. And then, of course, the fibrance and the factory yards of Akron and farms nestled in the Appalachian foothills along the Ohio River.

So I mention all this because to know the diversity we call America, you really just have to get a feeling for the State of Ohio. So it should come as no surprise that I've been looking forward to coming out here to say a few words about an Ohio leader who revitalized your neighboring city of Cleveland, taking it from the gloomy and dark days of ridicule and despair, and bringing it into the bright light of achievement and respect. I didn't come out here to talk about Bernie Kosar, incidentally. (Laughter.)

I'm here to show my support for an Ohio leader -- a great Mayor, soon to be a great governor -- and I'm talking about George Voinovich. (Applause.) I think all Ohioans, regardless of party, -- agree that he's already demonstrated this uncommon ability we're talking about in his three terms as Mayor of Cleveland. Little wonder, then, that George often says that Cleveland "is off the rocks and on a roll." Now he wants to do the same for all of Ohio. And make no mistake, after eight years, Ohio needs this Voinovich leadership and this Voinovich integrity in the governor's office. (Applause.)

For years now, you as Ohioans, and some of us from outside have been reading the investigative journalists' reports detailing the cronyism, the political favoritism, the taxpayer rip-offs that have taken place in this state. And at least one candidate for governor has had enough. Here's what George Voinovich says. "State government needs a thorough housecleaning, a gust of fresh air." And I can guarantee you he'll do that for the state. (Applause.)

So this campaign is about the future of Ohio -- an Ohio whose natural beauty is preserved for future generations. An Ohio that empowers people and not the bureaucrats. An Ohio that leads this country -- and you heard him commit to this -- to education reform, to keep America competitive, and to give our children a better future.

Both George and I believe that when we ask more of our kids, they'll respond. So will our teachers and our schools and our parents. And, yes, our elected public officials.

With his "Schools First" policy, George would upgrade the entire Ohio educational system while rewarding outstanding teachers and excellent schools. And he has embraced fully the goals of the Charlottesville Educational Summit that I convened last year because, he says, "these goals are right for the entire nation and for Ohio."

And the first goal of all is that George and I want our schools to be free of violence and drugs. And we must work towards

that end. There's also the heartfelt goals of our Congressman here -- Congressman Mike DeWine, who's been a leader in shaping the antidrug laws for the nation as a member of the United States Congress. And I'm going to miss his advice, as I said, in Washington. Not only has he distinguished himself fighting this whole concept of illegal drugs and crime, but he's earned recognition from Watchdogs of the Treasury and the National Taxpayers Union, both, as a fighter for fiscal responsibility. This outstanding record of service to the people of Ohio at county and state and national levels makes Mike DeWine the right choice for lieutenant-governor of Ohio. And we urge your strong support for the ticket. (Applause.)

Let me just take a minute to address a couple of other matters important to the people of Ohio; but also to the people of our entire country and, indeed, to the world. This is, indeed, as George pointed out, an extraordinary moment, a moment when our national will is being tested both at home and abroad.

We can meet the test at home -- I'm confident we can meet it. But what we must do is first put our fiscal house in order. And right now, at this very minute, we are coming down to the wire in Washington. The final few days of the fiscal year. You remember, the new fiscal year starts October 1st, the way the federal government keeps its books. So we're right down at the end of the old fiscal year, coming to the new one. Final few days. And still, we do not have an agreement in hand to bring this deficit down. It's up there in the Congress right now. We sent a proposal there months ago. Five days from now the ax falls. An automatic mandated sequester that will cut \$100 billion from the federal budget.

A cutback of this scope is going to hit hard. And it's going to hit home. And it's going to hit many, many people. And here's -- let me give you a couple of examples so you'll understand when you hear that word what sequester means.

For air travelers it means big cutbacks in air traffic control and substantial increases in flight delays and outright cancellations.

For farmers it will mean that AFCS offices will close during harvest time. For meat packers, plants may close when inspectors fail to show up. For college students, it means an end to 1.2 million Pell grants -- 1.2 million eliminated outright. Add to that a 22-percent cutback in grants to another two million students.

In this very city, this means that the poor students, the poor kids will not be able to attend Akron University.

And let me tell you, the sequester is strong medicine. But it's medicine patented by the Congress itself. It represents the last attempt by Congress to cure itself of its feverish spending habits. And without an agreement, it is the only way for Congress to force itself to make the very necessary tough choices. It is the law of the land. And I took an oath to the Constitution to uphold the law of the land. And we've tried to do our part to solve this difficult problem. And I made a good effort -- good faith effort to reach a sound and sensible budget agreement.

Let me go back to the beginning. Back to February 1st when I sent a complete budget up to Capitol Hill. And back to April 1st when Democrats who controlled both Houses of the United States Congress missed the deadline to take action on that budget -- their own deadline, spelled out in their own rules for the Congress. A month later in May I convened a budget summit, recognizing we only had a few months to go to this October 1st that's now a few days away. We wanted to jump-start the process.

And at the end of June when the talks bogged down, I made a concession demanded by the Democrat leaders to get Congress off dead-center. And I put it all on the table. Even taxes. And I took a lot of political heat coming out of the Democratic Party and the

Democratic leaders. They had a great bunch of joy out of all of that. And then in July, when both sides pledged to exchange comprehensive budget plans, the Democrats delayed while we delivered.

And all through the talks, for 135 long days, time and again I've gone the extra mile, and I think the Republicans in the Congress have gone the extra mile. And each time the other side says, it's still your move. It's still your move.

Well, that's not just our move anymore. And if and when the ax falls, the Democratic Congress knows that it will be held accountable. And I will take that message to every state in the Union. It is their fault for holding up getting a budget agreement. (Applause.) I've sat on my hands; I've suffered the slings and arrows that I expect from the political process. But I have a podium, too. I have a bully pulpit, too. And I'm going to see that it is not printed one side of this story, one Democrat after another knocking my socks off on Capitol Hill.

The American people want a budget agreement. They know who controls the Congress, and they want them to deliver a budget agreement to get this deficit down. (Applause.)

Let me come again at you. It goes well beyond political rhetoric. It's one of the great economic challenges that our country has faced. It is important to get a solution. But the threat of sequester doesn't change the fact that the fundamental test of any agreement is whether it sustains conditions for continued economic growth and job creation. And that's why I've called on Congress to build a package of pro-growth incentives into a budget agreement. Incentives that create jobs and encourage aggressive competitive R&D that sustain growth and steer this economy clear of recession.

And, yes, that's why I will continue to push hard for incentives for capital investment. In this global environment, many of our fiercest competitors are way ahead of us in promoting the savings and essential investment opportunity to success in the international marketplace.

And contrary to what you may have heard, the hang-up is not capital gains. The hang-up is with the Democrats on Capitol Hill. And we're still waiting for the Congress to come up with enough real spending cuts -- cuts that are enforceable, not just another empty promise of future savings -- a promise waiting to be broken. And we're still waiting for Congress to commit to meaningful budget process reform -- reform that builds real discipline into the budget process.

The American people are not dumb. They know, as they watch the Congress, that the budget process is a mess and it must be fixed once and for all. (Applause.)

We're going to bear the heat here. The last thing we want is for the year's budget fiasco to become next year's instant replay. So today, I say this to the United States Congress: Keep those lights burning on Capitol Hill if you have to. But before that deadline passes five days from now, let's reach the agreement that the American people are waiting for. No quick fix, no deal to delay these difficult budget decisions until after the election.

Yesterday, one of the powerful committees controlled by the Democrats voted on party line to delay the solution. Kick it on down the road. Don't make the tough decision today. Well, I'm going to stand in the way of that plan, if using every ounce of pressure I have, including the veto, to see that that does not happen. No quick fix, no delays.

October 1st is the zero hour, and it's real. We've got to prove to the American people once and for all that we can come together to deal with this deficit. There have been times when the cooperation has been good and, frankly, I'll be honest with you. I think the leaders -- the two or three top leaders on the Democratic

side have tried pretty hard on this matter. But that's not enough. That is not enough. The control lies there, and the responsibility to come forth with an agreement lies there.

Congress should listen to men like Mike DeWine, members like he. Lynn Martin who is with us here today, who is running over in Illinois and others, who say it's simply outrageous that important government services be jeopardized because Congress cannot do its job and pass a budget with the necessary reductions.

Reaching an agreement is critical. It really is. And we simply cannot fail to put our fiscal house in order. Especially now with the challenge that we're facing over there, halfway around the world in the Persian Gulf.

Emotions in the budget debate, as I report to you today, I can tell you, are running high -- they're running very high. You haven't heard much out of me on this. I've waited in the wings and tried to conciliate and, as I told you, I think I've given a great deal. But no matter how heated the exchange of words may be over the budget, we need to -- and I will do this -- continue to maintain a bipartisan spirit in support of America's response to Iraqi aggression. I would be remiss if I didn't tell you, I am grateful in this -- this Vandenburg concept of partisanship ending at the water's edge, that the Democrats and the Republicans in the House and the Senate are pulling together. And I'm grateful to the Democratic leadership for the support that they have publicly given -- what this country is trying to do in the Middle East.

I am often asked when we can bring our kids home, some still arriving. But I can understand that from parents and loved ones here in this country -- the concern they feel about our men and women that are serving over there. The answer has got to be general. It's got to be as soon as possible -- every single one of them -- but when the job is done.

Certain objectives have to be met. Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait, without condition. Aggression, unchecked today, will rear its ugly head tomorrow. Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. The security and the stability of this vital area, an area that affects the lives of every American, must be assured. And American citizens abroad, those held hostage in this brutal, shielding technique that Saddam Hussein is using, must be protected.

But we have another, final objective -- to create a new partnership of nations. A new world order -- that is free from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice, more secure in the quest for peace.

These are our objectives, and those of the United Nations Security Council and our allies. There are many, many countries to whom I am extraordinarily grateful for this tremendous cooperation. West Germany has pledged to support the mission with almost \$2 billion, and provide ships and planes, while Japan has pledged a package worth more than \$4 billion. France added another 4,000 troops. And Great Britain is sending 120 tanks, 6,000 troops, the famous Desert Rats. Those of us who are old enough to remember World War II will recall. So really -- and we're side-by-side in the soil there with Egyptian troops and Syrian troops and other Arab troops. It's truly Iraq, then, against the world.

The world is simply standing up and telling Saddam Hussein: We will not give in to intimidation.

Americans are showing their determination right here in Ohio. Look no further than Ashland University, to the father of a Marine stationed in the Gulf region, Professor Charles Brereton. Dr. Brereton published, in the school newspaper, a list of soldiers in his son Jim's Alpha Company weapons platoon. That one appeal led to a massive outpouring -- a flood -- of letters and hometown papers and care packages.

This is just one way -- tiny way, perhaps -- but it's one way that Ohio is sending a message to the Americans stationed in the Middle East. That message is a simple one: We're with you all the way. And another thing: Support for our mission is strong -- bipartisan in the sense of what Senator Vandenburg meant. For those of us at home, we believe that the best way we can serve our country is to debate and campaign, and be the best Republicans and Democrats we can be. But we cannot allow our political life to be held hostage to a foreign crisis.

When Ohioans go to the polls, absentee ballots will be streaming in from Americans in uniform, including those stationed in the Persian Gulf. If our soldiers, sailors and airmen and Marines can find the time to vote under such difficult circumstances; I hope America can count on all Ohioans to get out there and vote.

And when you do -- let me end it this way -- when you do, I hope you, and thousands like you around this great state, will make George Voinovich the next Governor of Ohio.

Thank you, God bless the United States of America. Thank you all.

END

12:31 P..M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New York, New York)

For Immediate Release

September 30, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF
THE WORLD SUMMIT ON CHILDREN

United Nations Building
New York, New York

10:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Secretary General and President Traore, Prime Minister Mulroney, and my distinguished colleagues from around the world. Thank you all, and welcome to the United States.

I'm proud to address you here today as the President of this country, in which this special summit is being held. And at the outset, let me join all in expressing our appreciation to UNICEF and then to the kids here with us today.

President Traore, our thanks to you, sir. And may I extend my special respects and special thanks to the Prime Minister of Canada. It was largely his foresight and persistence that resulted in this impressive turnout.

In recent days, the world community has acted decisively in defense of a principle: that small states shall not become souvenirs of conquest.

It was just three weeks ago that I spoke to the American people about a new world order, a new partnership of nations, freer from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice, more secure in the quest for peace.

Today, we are holding this unprecedented World Summit to work for the well-being of those who will live in and lead this new world. Their voices are still faint and unheard. So we've come together, more than 70 strong -- heads of state, chiefs of government -- chiefs of state and heads of government -- to speak for the children of the Earth.

But first, we should acknowledge that for many children, the only blessing they will ever know is their innocence. The facts are as stark as they are oppressive. There are almost three billion young people on Earth today -- and more than 14 million of them will die this year. In the next hour alone, 1,000 babies will perish. But I think we're all gathered here to defy these statistics. We've seen children -- swollen bellies. We've seen the pleading eyes of starvation. We've heard the cries of children dying of disease.

So let us affirm, in this historic summit, that these children can be saved. They can be saved when we live up to our responsibilities -- not just as an assembly of governments -- but as a world community of adults, of parents.

In my time as President, I've heard the heartrending cries of AIDS babies. I've stood helpless over infants born addicted to cocaine, their tiny bodies trembling with pain. But I've also been to many classrooms across America, where the influence of love and well-being can be seen instantly -- in bright faces and wondering eyes. From all these experiences and many more, I've learned that our children are a mirror, an honest reflection of their parents and

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their world. Sometimes, the reflection is flattering. At other times, we simply don't like what we see. So we must never turn away.

So let me tell you what the American people intend to do. This month, our Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Sullivan, announced ambitious new health objectives that we as a nation -- citizens, families, business and government -- hope to reach by the year 2000. We seek to reduce infant mortality and low-weight births, to increase child immunization levels and improve the health of both mothers and children. And we want to see the day when every American child is a part of a strong and stable family.

We're working in partnership with other governments and international organizations to eliminate child-killing diseases. Of course, many diseases are but a manifestation of an even more basic disorder -- malnutrition. And to combat world starvation, the United States will continue to help food production in many countries. And we will send almost 150 million metric tons of food abroad this year.

And sadly, there is another child-killer loose in the world that knows no cure -- AIDS. And nowhere is this killer taking more lives than in Africa. So I've asked Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Ronald Roskens, the Administrator of AID, to go to Africa to see what else America and the world can do to advance child survival across that continent and across the world.

So far, I've spoken here just briefly of the most urgent issues of survival. But simple survival is not enough for a child lacking in health or learning, or denied the love of family and time for play.

One year and two days ago I met with the governors of our 50 states on a single topic of national importance. We agreed to set ambitious education goals for the year 2000. For America, this is a stiff challenge, self-imposed. I see among us today many leaders who should take pride in giving the world examples of educational excellence -- examples the next generation of Americans will not leave unchallenged.

But, of course, education is a mystery to the 100 million children not in school. It's an outrage that so many spend their childhood in mines, in factories, in the twilight world of the streets. The United States outlawed most forms of child labor decades ago. Let us strive together to make education the primary work of all children.

So all children must be given the chance to lead happy, healthy and productive lives. Let me be the first to say that the United States can learn from many of the nations represented here today. But what my countrymen have learned from hard experience is that progress begins when we empower people, not bureaucracies.

Programs can best enhance the welfare of children by strengthening the mutual responsibilities of public institutions and individual families. We should also look to the private sector as an essential partner. Public efforts on behalf of children should encourage experimentation among neighborhoods and local governments -- not stifle it.

So when it comes to improving the welfare of children, empowerment should begin first with their parents, as President Salinas a minute ago so eloquently stated.

Saving one child is a miracle. As world leaders, we can realize such miracles -- and then we can count them in millions.

My friends and colleagues, thank you very much. And may God bless the children of this world. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

10:08 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 2, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
UPON PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR
EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS TEACHING

The Rose Garden

1:35 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: To our Secretary of Energy, Jim Watkins, delighted to see you sir; and Ted Sanders, the Under Secretary of Education; Fred Bernthal, Dr. Bill Phillips, and all of you here in the Rose Garden.

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to join you today and add my congratulations to those that you have already received. Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science and Math Teaching have been presented for the past eight years to secondary schoolteachers, but this is the first year that elementary schoolteachers have also received these awards. So you are the pioneers in what will be a continuing effort to honor the achievement of this nation's many outstanding schoolteachers.

You are a very select group -- 107 teachers from the more than 1.5 million elementary school instructors in this country. For many students, you represent their very first exposure to science and math, which gives you a vital responsibility.

Most kids who go on to become scientists or engineers first became interested in those subjects in elementary school or junior high. And, most often, the reason they do is because they are exposed to a teacher like you -- like each one of you -- someone who can speak their language, communicate with them, spark their imagination and evoke the sense of wonder that is inherent in science and math.

Kids are natural-born scientists, but too many of them lose interest when their only exposure to science is through long lists of facts. And you've discovered how to bring out the fun in science and math. And, in so doing, you provide a model and an inspiration for elementary schoolteachers everywhere.

You're also helping to meet a crucial national need. We live in an increasingly complex and competitive world, and the link between science and technology and our standard of living is stronger today than ever before. At a time when our international position in certain key industries is being challenged, we face impending shortfalls of qualified scientists and engineers. The students who can fill those shortfalls are in the classrooms right now. And we must ensure that they are given the education and the encouragement that they need.

Just a little over a year ago, I met with the nation's governors at Charlottesville for the first Education Summit -- a first step towards building a strong partnership among this administration, the governors, educators, parents and, indeed, community leaders. And this historic event resulted in a sense of direction and national goals for individual and collective efforts to improve the quality of education for all Americans.

Three of those goals directly involve science and math. By the year 2000, American students must demonstrate competency in

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five critical subjects, including science and math, with their progress measured in grades four and eight and 12. We must also make American students the first in the world in science and math by the year 2000. And we must ensure that every adult American must be able to read and have the skills, including technological skills, to compete in a global economy.

So these are ambitious goals, but they are faithful to the ambitions of this country. And as a people, we have set tough goals before; to send men to the moon or to serve the cause of freedom abroad. And we know that when the challenge is great, great things happen in America.

Already, a great many things are happening at the federal, state and local level. The Department of Energy and NASA are opening up their research labs to students and teachers so that they can experience cutting-edge science first-hand. And the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation are working together and with the states on strengthening research, assessment and curricula.

Equally exciting are things that are happening in the states, the states themselves. But achieving the goals that I announced last January will require that everyone get involved. That means parents, it means teachers, school administrators, businesses and universities.

Parents really are especially important. And it is very difficult for you as teachers to go out and do your job if you don't get help from parents -- and that's why we want to see parental empowerment in education. We must make American education the best it can be and that takes two things: greater parental involvement and, in my view, greater choice in education.

Reading about your accomplishments makes me confident that we will succeed. The letters of recommendation that helped bring you to Washington are really spectacular. And they give ample testimony to your ingenuity, your determination and, indeed, enthusiasm. In one letter, the parents of a kid named Woody write: "When we used to ask Wood what happened in school, he would tell us about recess. And now he tells us about science." You know, that really is a wonderful, wonderful statement about Woody's teacher, it seems to me.

Another one, another letter, writes of a teacher who "studies with the mind of a scholar, perceives through the eyes of a child and communicates with the voice of an understanding, compassionate and energetic motivator." And all of the letters are unanimous about one thing: the enthusiasm that each one of you bring to the classroom, an enthusiasm that goes beyond the classroom, that touches everyone that you know.

You are truly remarkable people. And you're able to take children and lift them up and inspire them and broaden their horizons and then aim them off in new directions. So the country owes you an immense debt of gratitude. But your real rewards can't be printed on some scroll, one piece of paper. The real rewards are the students who will remember you and what you have done for them for the rest of their lives.

Thank you all very much for being here today. And God bless each and every one of you for your wonderful commitment to the young people of this country. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

1:45 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 3, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
DURING CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE THE
UNIFICATION OF GERMANY AND GERMAN AMERICAN DAY

The Rose Garden

11:09 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. And to Ambassador Ruhfus and Bruce Gelb, Ellsbeth Seewald, Mr. Theune, Mr. Kruger, Senators Biden and Lugar and Pressler, and all of you. Welcome to the White House.

I want to especially thank the German Army Band for their stirring rendition of our National Anthem. Thank you, gentlemen. (Applause.) Thank you all. (Applause.)

And I don't want to leave out the Marines, either. They're back here -- and I thought they did a good job on the German National Anthem. (Applause.)

And, of course, I think we would all agree that this special event is all the richer for the participation of these kids here today. Thank you, guys. (Applause.) Both of you, men and women. (Applause.)

I just hung up from talking to Chancellor Helmut Kohl. And I told him that on this very special day the people of America send their heartiest congratulations to all Germans. Even as we meet here in our Rose Garden, Germans are celebrating their new unity from Berlin to Bonn; from Munich to Bremen; from the urban plazas of Leipzig to the golden vineyards along the hills of the Rhine.

And throughout this newly united nation, Germans celebrate a wonderful moment, delayed for almost half a century. And as part of that celebration, I've sent a video address to the people of Germany -- sentiments that I'd like to just share with you here today briefly.

For 45 years, at the heart of a divided continent lived a divided people. A cruel wall of concrete literally cut off neighbor from neighbor, husband from wife, child from parent, a nation from itself. And on this fault line on the East-West conflict, one people split literally between two worlds. And as the German people suffered through this long ordeal, American's were more -- much more than sympathetic observers. After all, we are united by bonds of culture that reach back to the early colonial times when Germans first became German Americans.

And at the invitation of William Penn, Germans arrived in America to start a new life. And life was tough. Their first homes were caves hollowed out in the ground. And their determination, though, was harder. And they built a community -- Germantown, Pennsylvania -- inspiring millions more to follow and to continue to build.

German Americans founded Hagerstown and Frederick, Maryland; Mecklenburg County, North Carolina; New Braunsfels in my state -- Texas; Frankfort, Kentucky; Berlin, Wisconsin; Anaheim, California. And they went on to help build some of the great cities of America: Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Milwaukee.

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And the 60 million American sons and daughters of these German pioneers -- like all Americans -- felt a deep tie to both Germanys. One, a new democracy in the heart of Europe; the other struggling to be free.

And, after all, our own country once lived under oppression. We remember John Peter Zenger, a young German American newspaper editor who dared to challenge authority way back in 1734. And it was this same German immigrant who helped America established our most cherished tradition -- freedom of speech.

And so now, Ambassador Ruhfus, when East Germans were punished for descent, we shared your spirit of defiance. And when German people were shot for attempting to flee to freedom, we shared your outrage. And when West German leaders dared to hope for a Germany united in freedom, we shared your dream.

And so, I guess what we're here to do is to affirm that dreams sometimes do come true. Germany is united; Germany is free. This day was very clearly envisioned by Conrad Adenauer, who said that a solution to a divided Germany is only possible with the help of our friends. And over the decades Adenauer's vision of a friendship between Germany and the United States, between Germany and the free peoples of the world, has indeed been realized. And this moment has come because Americans stood by the people of Berlin -- from the daredevil pilots of the airlift to a young President who made his bold declaration before the Wall.

This moment has also come because of the determination of West German leaders to make Germany whole and free. Not only Adenauer, but Ernst Reuter and Ludwig Erhard, Willy Brandt, Helmut Schmidt and, of course, today's Chancellor Helmut Kohl. And this day has come because, in 1989, the people of Germany stood their ground for freedom.

The United States is proud to to have joined your countrymen in building the foundations of freedom. Proud to have been a steady partner in your quest. America is also proud to count itself among the friends and allies of a free Germany now and forevermore.

This has been a year of change for America, for a United Germany, for the Atlantic Alliance of which we are both a part. And I'm certain that our two nations will meet the challenges of the future, as we have in the past, as partners in leadership. This day, so meaningful for Germany, also inspires the world. Meters away from the walls of the Reichstadt, scene of the first session of the newly reunited German Parliament, stood the Berlin Wall. For years free men and women everywhere dreamed of the day that the Berlin Wall would cease to exist. When a world without the wall would mean a Germany made whole once more. And when Germany, united and sovereign, would contribute in full measure as a force for peace and stability in world affairs.

Well, today it is the wall that lies in ruins, and our eyes open on a new world of hope. The last remnants of the wall remain there at the heart of a free Berlin, a ragged monument in brick and barbed wire. Proof that no wall is ever strong enough to strangle the human spirit. That no wall can ever crush a nation's soul. And this is my message to the German people and that is the heartfelt sentiment of the American people.

But before I sign this document proclaiming this very special German American Day, let me just add one more thing. Last Sunday I attended the World Summit for Children up there at the United Nations. More than 70 heads of state, heads of government and chiefs of state were there. And we discussed many critical issues: health care, education, many others. But we were profoundly touched by the knowledge that we must entrust the future of our nations to another generation. And looking at these kids here today, I believe I can see the future of the new Germany. A future of liberty and

leadership, goodwill and greatness.

So once again, my heartfelt congratulations to the people of this United Germany. I know I confidently speak for all Americans. Thank you very much for coming. (Applause.)

END

11:16 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 11, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK CEREMONY

Room 450
Old Executive Office Building

2:45 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Sorry we had to move indoors here. Let me just first greet the members of the fire service community; members of Congress who are here; officials from FEMA; Fire Marshall Bernard Johnson; Fire Chief Rayfield Alfred; my own firefighters -- call them my own -- Engine Company 13 and Tower 10 -- welcome to the White House. We've got a few fires to put out around here, and that's why I've been late. (Laughter.) Thank you very much.

More than 2,100,000 fires broke out in the U.S. this year, claiming 6,000 lives. Fires strike at the most vulnerable among us, especially children and the elderly. And it also strikes the most valiant among us -- many casualties are, indeed, the firefighters who lose their lives in a last-ditch struggle to save somebody else -- save someone else's life.

Then, after the cost in lives, we've got to count the enormous property losses in excess of \$8 billion. Now, these dollars cannot adequately represent the tragedy of so many beloved homes, churches and businesses literally "going up in smoke."

There is an army of dedicated Americans who stand ready to fight these fires, any time, any place -- the more than 1 million firefighters. The organizations involved in fire prevention efforts are too numerous to mention. But all are true heroes, and their heroic role is on display here today for National Fire Prevention Week.

At the federal level, the U.S. Fire Administration, part of FEMA, is the national leader in firefighting and emergency response. These men and women from the Fire Administration are dedicated to the development of effective programs to help fire departments, state and local governments, private business and organizations, and educators promote fire safety and awareness in communities across the country. At the state level, many dedicated agencies labor to provide training courses for firefighters and emergency medical technicians, arson investigation services and research. And of course, in virtually every community across this great country are the men and women who make up the front lines in the battle -- the firefighters -- both career and volunteers, who continue a long and distinguished tradition of firefighting that goes back all the way to the first volunteer fire company founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1736.

Congress also has a role to play through the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, whose cochairmen are Senator McCain and Congressman Curt Weldon. The Caucus boasts 370 congressmen and senators -- 370 -- making it the largest on Capitol Hill. Most of all, Congress recently updated our safety laws in the Hotel-Motel Fire Safety Act, authored by Congressman Sherry Boehlert.

All of these groups -- from volunteers to members of Congress -- can tell you that the best way to fight fire is not with fire -- but with prevention. The National Fire Protection

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Association does a great job in this endeavor, working with young people such as Shanta Jones, the 1990 NFPA National Fire Safety Poster contest child winner. In this and in so many other ways, they are getting the word out on fire prevention.

As you know, Tuesday marked the anniversary of a key event in American history, the "Great Chicago Fire," a sweeping conflagration that destroyed most of that great city back in 1871. Years later, outrage over devastating citywide fires led to a national effort to prevent fires.

To focus this national campaign, President Wilson proclaimed October 9, 1920, National Fire Prevention Day. In 1922, President Harding made it Fire Prevention Week, saying that fire prevention should be practiced "by every man, woman, and child, not only during the week designated in this pronouncement, but throughout every hour of every day of the year."

That's true today. Every hour of every day, we can help save a life by preventing a fire. And we can keep these brave men and women with us today from having to risk their lives to save ours.

So I am again very pleased to be with you all, and to sign the Proclamation declaring this week as National Fire Prevention Week. Thank you all for coming down. (Applause.)

END

2:50 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Irvine, California)

For Immediate Release

October 26, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT CALIFORNIA GOP FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Hyatt Hotel
Irvine, California

9:00 A.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Don, thank you so very much for that very, very generous introduction. If I began to try to express my gratitude to Don for all he's done for me, it would be impossible. So I just want to say thank you -- thank you for what you and George have done for this wonderful event in support of Pete Wilson, for all that you both do in support of this party. And I am very, very pleased to be here.

I'm delighted to see our able state chairman down here. He's done a remarkable job pulling this party together, getting it unified so we will win these statewide elections in about 11 days from now. Frank Visco, thank you, sir, for your great leadership for the party. I know out here somewhere is Tom Fuentes, the Orange County chairman. Where is -- (applause.) If Tom ever needs a campaign chairman for national office, all he has to do is call the White House and ask for Barbara Bush. That's his biggest admirer, and she feels about him just the same way I do. What a job he's done.

And I also want to congratulate in advance, hopefully, the rest of this ticket here -- your own Marian Bergeson, who's -- I love what Pete Wilson said about her -- is yours, is now going on to be the state's lieutenant governor. Matt Fong for comptroller down here; and, of course, Thomas Hayes, who we know will remain as State Treasurer.

So I think we've got an outstanding team. And I also want to put in a plug for one who was just here -- had to go on to that campaign trail -- and I'm talking about the next congressman from one of these districts right here, Bob Hammock. He's in a tough race, but I believe he's going to make it. And boy, do we need him in that seat. (Applause.)

Well, I'm delighted to be here. And it was very generous of Pete to get on that telephone and give me those warm words of welcome. He is doing exactly what he should do as this Congress wraps up. I wish they'd been out of business long before now, frankly. But he's got to be there to protect the interest of the people of California. And I believe he'll do just that.

But I'm here this morning because the stakes are high. And we all know that out on the trail right now, there's a strong, vibrant woman involved in this race. People say she's a winner -- the one woman who's finally a match for Pete. But Gayle is much too modest to admit it. (Laughter.) What a job Gayle Wilson is doing for her husband across this state. It is unbelievable. (Applause.) And Barbara and I salute you and we admire you. And we are just grateful that you are with us here today.

You know, it's good to be back. And I start by saying thank you -- thank you to all those in Orange County. And I thought Don put it pretty well -- all of you for giving me and, I'd say

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Barbara, too, the opportunity to serve the greatest country on the face of the Earth as President. And I must say, last night when I arrived at El Toro and landed at the Marine base and saw the dedication of those families, many of them with their husbands halfway around the world -- those Marines out there -- I must say it really moved me as I went down and shook hands with each and every one of them. And transcending the partisan politics that bring us this morning, I just want you to know this -- we are not going to fail in our mission halfway around the world. (Applause.)

Some think that the differences between the parties are blurred. And to that I say, nonsense. Republicans believe that power should be in the hands of people, not in the government in Washington, D.C. Republicans want to reform Washington so we can expand opportunity for all Americans -- instead of expanding the budget year in after year out. (Applause.) In education, Republicans want reform -- to empower parents to choose their children's schools. In child care, we're the ones that want reform -- to empower parents to choose who will watch over their children.

In the most desolate inner cities, we want reform -- so we strive to create enterprise zones -- zones of opportunity, to remove barriers to mobility and remove barriers to success; to empower people with the spirit of enterprise. In short, we do want to build a better America. That is why I need more Republicans in the United States Congress. And that's why I want to see Pete Wilson as governor of this great state -- so that we are going to have a fair shake in redistricting in a couple of years from now. We've been gerrymandered out of it, and the time has come for fair play. (Applause.)

In addition, Pete's been there in Washington -- he's seen it. He's seen what 40 years of Democratic control of the Congress have given us: bigger and bigger government with more and more spending. And remember, it is Congress that appropriates every dime and tells us how to spend every dime. And the American people know this in overwhelming numbers, that it is the United States Congress that must be changed if this country is going to move ahead. (Applause.)

I met yesterday with the Republican leadership in the House and Senate, and one thing is clear: we are united in the opposition to the tax-and-spend policies of the Democrats. Now, after eight long months of negotiations, we may be on the verge of a budget agreement. This morning in a major newspaper, I was challenged by one of the House Democratic leaders who now puts the budget negotiations into the context of the presidential politics of 1992.

Well, let me tell you something. Let me say that a number -- first off, that the number of Democratic leaders -- and I'm talking about the leadership in the House and the Senate -- have been working cooperatively. And I think they have been working very hard to get a budget agreement. For that I salute them, because I firmly believe that we must get an agreement to start getting these deficits under control -- with real enforcement, \$500 billion worth of cuts over five years that cannot be changed by the next Congress or the next one after that.

But in criticizing me today and in justifying the higher taxes that their party has long proposed, one was quoted in the paper as follows: The President needs to explain to the American people why they are being asked to swallow strong medicine -- that's what Democrats call taxes -- but he didn't do it. He says, the President didn't do this. Well, let me try once more.

For 36 years, his party, the Democratic Party, have controlled the House of Representatives. And year after year after year, they have presided over these budget deficits. They appropriate every dime, and they tell me how to spend every dime. And, yes, we need a deficit agreement. And, yes, I have had to compromise -- haven't liked that a bit, but I've done it because the

President must, at certain times, put the overall good of the country first. You have to give a little from time to time.

But the American people know all too well that strong medicine -- I refer back to that quote -- is required because the Democratically-controlled Congress simply has been on an uncontrolled spending binge for years. (Applause.) You don't have to be a rocket scientist to know that Congress has been spending more than we take in for far too long. And that's got to stop.

For the sake of the nation, we have to reduce the deficit now. I was determined to do it by a careful balance of spending cuts. Predictably, the Democrats wanted to slash defense and raise income taxes for all Americans. Take a look at that House-passed bill. Don't let them tell you that was a tax package to hit the rich. That was going after the working men and women in this country, through the deferring of index. And everybody out there is smart enough to see it. (Applause.)

The agreement that we get won't be the best deal possible, but in my judgment, it will be the best deal possible with this Congress. And the best way for America to stand against more spending and more taxes is to elect more Republicans to the House and to the Senate of the United States. (Applause.)

The budget, regrettably, isn't the only thing we've waited for. We've waited for action on the environment. We all want a safe and healthy world, preserved and protected for our kids. In fact, when I think of Gayle's husband, Pete, he wrote the first Coastal Protection Act. He's been fighting for clean air for years, long before it became the cause. His brand of environmental activism is what California really needs -- because he proves that a leader can be green without being "Big Green." (Applause.)

I hope you know this, but clean air at the federal level has been one of my administration's top priorities as well. It's been 13 years since the Clean Air Act has been successfully amended and improved. And so on July 21, 1989, we sent to the Congress new comprehensive clean air legislation to cut acid rain, urban smog, and air toxins. Not five, not 10, but over 100 amendments were added; and it took Congress six weeks to appoint the members of the conference committee.

And then 150 congressional negotiators squabbled for 15 weeks -- now, 462 days after we sent that legislation, it looks like a bill finally -- thank heavens -- might arrive on my desk. You see, I believe the American people do deserve clean air. And I believe Californians deserve clean air. And what they don't deserve is a Congress that is hamstrung by special interest wrangling over our nation's priorities.

Here's another thing that can't wait -- and again, I admire Pete Wilson for being out front, both in California and in Washington on these questions. Another thing that can't wait: safe streets and schools. Here in California, Pete Wilson has worked for harsher penalties for those convicted of rape and assault. Back in Washington, he supported the tough crime bill that we sent to Capitol Hill nearly 16 months ago. And when liberal Democrats tried to gut the death penalty, it was Republicans who stopped them. Republicans demanded a real, workable death penalty for those who kill federal law enforcement officers. That's my position; that's Pete's position. That is the position of the people of California. (Applause.)

Well, that crime legislation is still in a conference committee. If Congress sends me a weak bill here in the final hours, I'm going to veto it. And if Congress sends me a strong bill, it's because of Republicans like Pete Wilson, who insist that these people that murder our police officers get the kind of punishment they deserve. Innocent Americans are waiting for a criminal justice system that is tougher on criminals than it is on law enforcement. And one that cares a little bit more about the victims of crime and a

a little less about the criminals themselves. (Applause.) And if you do that, take the message across this state -- heavily laden, heavily rich in congressional seats -- that the best way to get that done is by voting for a new Congress: a Republican Congress on November 6th. (Applause.)

You know, congressional Democrats are upset because they know that the Republicans are on the right side of the issues. We just need more Republicans on the right side of the aisle. The voters are fed up. They know where the blame lies.

And that's why Californians are supporting Proposition 140 -- the one Pete endorsed. (Applause.) For those who may have straggled in from inside the Washington Beltway, let me say that that's the one that limits the terms of permanent politicians and puts the power back into the hands of the people. The 1988 Republican platform supports limitation on terms for members of Congress. In 1988 -- I'm not just jumping on the bandwagon -- that was in our platform. And that is one way to correct the abuse of power and the unbridled influence of an entrenched congressional staff. And I say, it's an idea whose time has come. (Applause.)

There's another point -- Pete's been in the forefront on this one -- our party has always stood for strength at home and strength abroad. And today it's no different. But partisanship, as Senator Vandenburg said, stops at the water's edge. We got away from that a little bit in the Vietnam days -- subsequently related to South America. But I respect that. I like that concept, that when it comes to foreign affairs the partisanship should, indeed, stop at the water's edge. And so I think in a spirit of fair play. Given what we're facing halfway around the world, I ought to say, and I say it proudly that I am very grateful for the bipartisan support for our stand against aggression in the Persian Gulf.

Our ability to build a worldwide consensus condemning Iraq and its brutality proves that there is no substitute for American leadership in the community of nations. We, and the world, are determined that Saddam Hussein's aggression and his brutality will not stand. (Applause.)

Here at home, we can, indeed, fulfill our party's mission of creating opportunity and empowering people, set forth so long ago -- the mission begun by Abraham Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt and continued by our last President -- a great son of California, Ronald Reagan. The time has come to fulfill that mission now. But to do it, we need more Republicans in Washington and, indeed, in Sacramento.

So my appeal to you is -- you in this county who hold so much of the fate of all these statewide candidates in your hand -- let's get out our vote on November 6th. And let's make Pete Wilson the next great Republican governor of the state of California. (Applause.) Go to work. (Applause.) Get out there now with 11 days to go and elect this man governor. (Applause.)

Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

9:17 A.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)

For Immediate Release

October 26, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT PETE WILSON FOR GOVERNOR RALLY

Century Plaza Hotel Ballroom
Los Angeles, California

12:45 P.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Let me say to our next governor, thank you very much for that warm introduction and those generous comments. (Applause.) I might say, Gayle, Pete can't be here, but I'm delighted to be at your side. Gayle Wilson continues to amaze. She finds all the time in the world to be compassionate and work with these drug babies, engaged in the battle against narcotics and, yet, she's Pete's secret weapon out on the campaign trail every single day. He's lucky, and it's going to make a tremendous difference. (Applause.)

I, too, want to pay my respects to my old friend, George Deukmejian; to Gloria, too. I'll tell you, the state has been well-served by his decency, his honor, his sense of commitment. George, thank you for what you've done for this state and for the country. (Applause.) I, too, want to thank our State Chairman, Frank Visco, and our statewide slate. Marion Bergeson is here with us, the candidate for lieutenant governor. (Applause.) Thomas Hayes for treasurer, and Matt Fong for comptroller -- all with us here today. (Applause.) And I want to thank the marvelous talent, the Velvet Fog, Mel Torme. Nobody can do The Star-Spangled Banner any better than that. (Applause.) If you give lessons, you might try Roseanne Barr on for size. (Laughter and applause.)

I want to say thanks to my friends, Andy Williams and Buddy Ebsen, Donald O'Connor, and, of course, Scott Baio, the youngest of us all. It's great to be with you all, and I'm so appreciative. And then, my special and profound thanks to two old friends that have been really sweet to Barbara and me over the years -- and I mean Barbara and Frank Sinatra. Thank you all for being with us, too. (Applause.)

I bring you all greetings from Barbara Bush. If I might say so -- as I said about Gayle -- I think Barbara is doing an outstanding job on behalf of literacy across this country. (Applause.) That first pitch she threw out at the Reds' catcher there probably screwed up the Oakland team, but nevertheless -- (laughter) -- she sends her very best regards.

I want to just get back out here -- this morning in Orange County and now here, and then Monday in San Francisco -- to just say a few words of support for our next governor, Pete Wilson.

You know, Pete understands California. He knows that Californians want a government that is responsible and, in short, a government worthy of respect. That's why he endorsed this Proposition 130, to reform our government by limiting the terms for the lawmakers. (Applause.)

You know, some don't know this, but our 1988 Republican platform, national platform, called for limiting terms for members of Congress. Now momentum is building all across this country. But the Democrats, including Pete's opponent, don't understand the mood of

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the country. They truly believe that they deserve to be reelected from now until kingdom come. I believe in citizen legislators returning to live under the laws they've made. I believe term limitation is an idea whose time has come. (Applause.)

This system, gerrymandered to perpetuate incumbency, reminds me of the Michael Keaton character in Pacific Heights: Once they move into your basement, they never move out. (Laughter.) But Pete Wilson has said enough is enough, and so do I, and we don't need perpetual legislators. We need more Republicans like Pete Wilson, and we need a Congress in Washington that works. We need a Congress that works for the national interest, not the special interest.

In education -- Pete touched on it -- we want reform to empower parents, give the parents the right to choose their children's schools. In child care, we want reform to empower parents to choose who will watch over their children. We don't want the government telling them that that's the way it's got to be in child care. (Applause.) And in the most desolate, the most poverty-stricken inner cities, we want reform. And so we strive to create job zones of opportunity; to remove barriers to mobility and success; to empower people with the spirit of enterprise.

In civil rights -- in civil rights, we want expanded guarantees of equal opportunities for all. We want to eliminate prejudice in the workplace, but we do not want quotas. And that is why I vetoed that civil rights bill. (Applause.) And the very day I did that I sent a -- I've been for civil rights all my life, and I sent a civil rights bill up to the Hill that will guarantee against discrimination in the workplace, but it will not establish quotas.

And I ask the Congress -- they're sitting around up there now. They could pass it in 20 minutes if there was a genuine interest in civil rights and less interest in trying to embarrass the President of the United States. (Applause.)

And in housing, we want to empower public housing tenants to take charge of their own lives, to be able to control the places in which they live.

But this is a Congress that I have to live with. I'm now much more empathetic with the Duke -- what he's put up with over these last couple of terms. This is a Congress that would rather proclaim National Home Care Week than give me a housing bill. This is a Congress that would rather issue feel-good proclamations than address the fundamental problems of this country. And this is a Congress that is just now delivering a budget almost a full month into the new fiscal year, and after eight months of negotiations.

You know, almost 40 times in the last 10 years -- just in the last 10 years -- Congress has had to pass emergency measures just to keep the government operating. They did it again just last Wednesday for the third time this month. I believe that the American people have had enough. And there is an alternative. And I met yesterday at the White House with the Republican leadership from the House and the Senate, and I made clear to the leadership and to our negotiators from the White House how much we owe to their untiring efforts these past eight months -- efforts to fight the Democrats' determination to tax and spend.

It is my deeply-held conviction that I must do all I can to get a \$500-billion deficit reduction that can't be turned over next year or the year after -- get that five-year deficit reduction and get it in place. And that has meant that I've had to do some compromising. I don't control the Senate and I don't control the House, but I will not do one that reverts back to raising the income tax rates on everybody in the name of soaking the rich. What they're really doing is trying to get into the pocket of the working man and woman of this country by that indexing that the Democrats ran through the House with. (Applause.)

God, it's nice to be out of Washington -- I'll tell you.

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(Laughter.) Getting warmed up here. (Applause.) But we are united by a certain bunch of principles -- group of principles. And we stand against the age-old failed tax-and-spend policies of the Democrats who control both Houses of the Congress. We're working to turn things around in Washington. Right here in California, back here, reform starts now with Pete Wilson.

In our war on crime and drugs, Pete, as George Deukmejian said, has been absolutely outstanding. As your next governor, here's what he says: I will not have California under siege to rapists and thugs and drug dealers. And is it, therefore, any surprise that he, and not his opponent, is endorsed by the women prosecutors of California? They know that Pete wants to govern a California where women no longer fear the night, because drug dealers and criminals will fear the law. (Applause.) They know he would make your streets safer by extending capital punishment in California to those major drug traffickers -- the same as my proposal -- exactly the same as my proposal before the Congress. The first time I called on Congress to pass a tough, comprehensive crime bill, I was surrounded there by hundreds of law enforcement officers at the foot of the Capitol on a rain-soaked morning in May of 1989.

Now, after a year and a half, the Democrat Congress still has not passed our crime bill. The only crime bill the Democrats have ever talked about passing is one that would leave our courts, our cops and ultimately, our citizens weaker than the criminals who plague our cities. And I will not accept that kind of legislation. (Applause.)

The Democrats tried to push through an exclusionary rule that would have handcuffed law enforcement officers. It was Republicans, in the minority, but it was Republicans that held the line. And when they tried to assure criminals a process of endless appeals, Republicans held the line. And when they tried to cut the death penalty, Republicans held the line.

The hour is late. And if Congress sends me a bill now -- even now at this last minute -- that is tougher on criminals than it is on the cops, then I'll sign it the instant it lands on my desk. (Applause.) It troubles me -- it troubles me that our Democratic Congress doesn't bother to listen to the most vulnerable of our society -- those families living in fear in West L.A. or in Watts, in neighborhoods where just going to school or the corner store requires an act of courage.

If the Democrats in Congress want real justice, if they want peace in our neighborhoods, they would have protected Americans -- all Americans -- with the tough laws that we proposed so very long ago. If we had had more people like Pete Wilson in the United States Senate and more like him in the House, we would have done much better sooner to protect the average man and woman of this country.

Well, now California can do something about the arrogance of the liberal state legislature. You can do something because you, the voters, are the true incumbents. You can elect more Republicans, and you can elect a governor who will never waver in fighting crime, standing firm for fiscal sanity, protecting the environment. You can elect Pete Wilson. (Applause.)

November 6th is just 11 days away, and already the absentee ballots are coming in from the Gulf. Thousand of votes from our men and women in uniform. If they can find the time to do their civic duty under demanding circumstances, I know that Californians at home will turn out as well. So we need you to get out the vote. That's what a lot of this luncheon is about today -- helping Frank Visco and the state party get out the vote for our outstanding statewide ticket.

Let me just close with a word relating to what's happening in the Gulf. I was very moved when I landed at El Toro and met the wives and kids of many of those who are serving us right now halfway around the world in Saudi Arabia. It's a very moving thing

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to see those fantastic young people whose husbands and wives are serving halfway around the world.

You know, Arthur Vandenburg talked about partisanship ending at the water's edge. That was a good concept. We got away from it in Vietnam and the post-Vietnam era. But I'm very pleased -- and I want to say it right here in front of what I suspect is a bit of a partisan audience when it comes to George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson. But we've had good support across the aisle from the Democratic leadership and from the Democratic members of Congress and the Democratic members of the Senate for what I'm trying to do halfway around the world.

But I come to these meetings, and you see some signs out there, and it says: "No war for oil." Let me tell you that that's not what the question is. The question is: Will the United States, the only country in the world that has the power to effect this unprecedented coalition and put it together, will the United States insist -- and I think the answer is yes -- will we insist that Saddam Hussein get out of Kuwait, that the government of Kuwait be restored, that the rape and the pillage and the plunder of Kuwait stop and that aggression not be rewarded? It isn't oil -- it is aggression -- naked, brutal aggression. (Applause.)

So I can assure you that when this is over, the world will say thank God that the United States made it clear that no country can bully and take over its neighbor. That's what's at stake. And I want to say to the American people and to those in California regardless of party, I am grateful for the steadfast support -- for your steadfast support. And I will not let you down. The United States of America will prevail.

Thank you all, and God bless each and every one of you.
(Applause.)

END

1:03 P.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)

For Immediate Release

November 1, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT RECEPTION FOR MARTINEZ FOR GOVERNOR

Marriott World Center Hotel
Orlando, Florida

5:32 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very, very much. You've been standing there a long time. Thank you. I am just delighted to be here, and the minute I got off this airplane, I felt that enthusiasm, the surge that guarantees that Bobby Martinez will be the Governor come election day once again. He deserves it, and he's got it moving. (Applause.) And Mary Jane, you were fantastic. If you want our dog to come down and campaign for you, just invite her. Barbara's already done her thing for Bob. (Laughter.)

And, of course, Allison -- Allison DeFoor. I mean, here's a sheriff, a man of the law, a man of the people. He'll be an outstanding lieutenant governor serving at Bob's side, working against the criminals in this state, law and order, sound fight against narcotics. We're lucky to have a man like this on our ticket, I'll tell you. (Applause.)

Let me pay my respects to the Senator standing next to me here, Connie Mack. Although he's not running, he's out there across this state campaigning hard, giving the Florida Democrats a "Mack attack" -- (laughter) -- and doing a first-class job. (Applause.) And we're delighted you're here today. (Applause.)

And then my old friend Bill McCollum. He and I have been suited up in the political warfare for years. And you ought to see -- you ought to see the job he does on his anticrime legislation and on this whole protection of the rights of the American family. He is superb. And we need another like him, and that's why Bill Tolley has got to be elected. (Applause.) Bill, good luck to you. For those of you in this congressional district, get out the vote and send me another good member of the Florida delegation -- someone I can work with to hold down these taxes and keep the government out of your pocket. Bill, we need you. (Applause.)

And, of course, I want to pay my respects to three old friends -- Jeanie Austin, who's doing a superb job on the national level as cochairman of the Republican National Party. Van Poole -- Mr. Chairman we now call him -- thank you for your extraordinary effort in leading this party to majority status. And then, of course, when you want some heavy lifting done, I'll give you a little advice: get Alec Courtelis to do it. What a superb job he's done as finance chairman. (Applause.)

And so I'm thrilled to be back here. This election here in Florida is close, it's crucial, it is important. And a few nights ago -- I missed it -- but I've had the instant replay. You saw it. You saw what was at stake. You saw what it takes to be a great governor. And you saw a Governor offer the balanced approach that you would expect from a seasoned leader of a city, now a leader of a great and a growing state. You saw Governor Bob Martinez in action win that debate and go on to win the vote, now he'll do it on Tuesday. (Applause.)

And some of what came through there was much of what we've been watching as his admiring friends over the years. We saw

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one who believes that the people of Florida know what's best for themselves. And he believes in empowering people, empowering communities, tapping into the power that comes when millions work for a common vision. And little surprise then that under a Republican Governor, Florida is moving forward for a cleaner environment, for better schools for these kids, for streets safe from drugs and crime.

Florida ranks number one in the creation of new businesses and new jobs. (Applause.) Especially in high tech manufacturing. And the credit goes, of course, to the people of Florida and to this man, Governor Bob Martinez. (Applause.)

You're looking at a kindred soul when it comes to one who has respect for the Everglades because I love going down there each year. And you know that -- I know that every Floridian treasures the Everglades, that unique and irreplaceable resource. And last year, I was able to sign into law a bill increasing the size of the Everglades National Park by more than 100,000 acres. Connie Mack, begin most instrumental in this -- (applause) -- strong supporter of this legislation. (Applause.) Bob Martinez urging that it be done. I need a governor here with whom I can work in the White House. (Applause.)

And, yes, I think we can say -- and this message goes out to other states that Florida is tough on drugs. Bob is in the lead here -- leading Governor on substance abuse and drug trafficking for the National Governors Association; fighting against these for the good of Florida. And he set a national precedent by appointing a state drug czar. And he's been a leader in making sure that parolees undergo drug testing and counseling to get straight and stay straight. And the credit goes to this man, Governor Bob Martinez. (Applause.)

And so whether he is standing up for the environment or standing up to the drug dealers, he's completed a remarkable record of achievement that would make any governor proud. He's never been one to walk away from a job. And for Governor Bob Martinez, even the toughest challenge is just another day at the office. We're lucky to have him. Please reelect him. (Applause.)

I was up in Massachusetts -- two stops in Massachusetts -- and the theme there is the same as it is here. The Republican Party is the party of change, not the status quo. We are the party of new ideas. And there is no higher domestic priority on the Republican agenda than the nation's economy because our economy is the job-creating engine that every family in this country counts on.

And I know in recent months there's been some understandable uncertainty about -- and concern about slower economic growth. And that's one reason getting a budget agreement in my view was important and why I was willing to go the extra mile to get it. The negotiations were tough. And my approach was clear. The Democrats wanted to raise taxes, including income taxes, and I wanted to reduce the federal budget deficit with spending cuts. And if we've had had more senators like Connie Mack, more congressmen like Bill McCollum, we would have got it done exactly the way I wanted. (Applause.) Because they don't want to raise taxes on the American people. (Applause.) And they want to cut spending.

But every once and awhile a President has to compromise to make something happen -- to govern. And in this one, there was some good news, actually. We got \$492 billion in deficit reduction; \$350 billion in spending cuts. And then we've got some incentives in there to make America less dependent on foreign oil. And this is critical, and it is very important -- we put Congress on a pay-as-you-go basis. The enforcement provisions of this agreement are real, and they are strong, and no longer will new programs be funded with red ink. (Applause.)

And finally, we did do something that I think is vitally important -- and these two members of Congress agree is vitally important -- and that is we held the line against reckless cuts in

our defense spending. You see, I am determined that given the threats we face around the world, I am determined that this nation's defense remain strong and prepared. And we owe that much, at least, to those fine young men and women who are stationed in the Persian Gulf serving our country with such distinction. (Applause.)

But let me tell you other places where our agenda coincides with what Bob Martinez believes. We fought for a responsible child care law. One that would put choice into the hands of American families. You see, it is our belief that we ought to empower parents to choose those who will care for their children, not let the federal government make a determination how that should work. (Applause.)

We fought for this and these leaders here helped enormously, and we won it. And we also fought for a responsible clean air bill. And we asked Congress to cut acid rain, to cut smog by harnessing new technology with the power of the marketplace. And we fought for this; and we won it. And of great concern to me and to Florida is yet another landmark law, a fair and effective law to ensure the civil rights of every disabled American. And so I was particularly proud in this session to sign into law the Americans with Disabilities Act. Historic legislation that protects the civil rights of 43 million men, women and children with disabilities. (Applause.)

And that bill does prohibit discrimination against the disabled in employment, and public accommodations, and transportation, and communications. And all Americans with disabilities can now pass through a once-closed door to a bright new era of equality, and independence, and freedom, and opportunity.

And so there were some historic achievements: clean air, child care, this ADA bill. The great strides, though, are just beginning to show what Republicans can do for this country. And, of course, there is still much more work to be done on the Republican agenda. And at the top of our agenda -- and I report to you with not too much happiness on this one -- was crime. America is fed up with crime, whether it's neighborhood crime or crime in somebody else's city. And Republicans know handcuffs belong not on the cops and the courts; handcuffs belong on the criminals. And that was the underpinning of our crime bill. (Applause.)

And shortly after taking office, I stood before the U.S. Capitol and called on Congress to pass tough, new laws to help America take back its streets. And instead, in the final hours of Congress, the Democratic liberals -- those in Washington like the ones Bob is running against here -- completely gutted our package to fight against violent crime. Republicans -- two of them right here -- fought for habeas corpus reforms aimed at stopping convicted criminals from endlessly abusing the appeals process. Republicans fought for revision of the so-called exclusionary rule: a judge-made law that lets the guilty go free. And Republicans fought for a real federal death penalty for drug kingpins and terrorists. And we've got to be tough on crime and criminals. And it's Republicans that want change. Give me more Republicans in the House and in the Senate to get this job done. (Applause.)

And as I make that plea for Bill Tolley to go to Congress to support Bill McCollum and Connie Mack. As I do that, let me just say that Republicans can look no further than what Bob Martinez has done. With his leadership, it can be done, in other words. With his leadership, Florida has been tough on crime. Toughening laws to ensure that the criminals stay behind bars and adding the prison space to enforce it. He picked a no-nonsense sheriff -- standing right here -- as his running mate. And that tells you something. Bob Martinez and Allison DeFoor will make Florida an even safer place to live; and you can count on it. You can count on their doing just that. (Applause.)

And that's what this election is all about. But, of course, while the election in Florida is crucial, our thoughts are

also halfway around the world with the brave young men and women who are teaching us a lesson about what it means to love liberty. And so my appeal would be this: as November 6th draws near, five days from now, I urge every Floridian to get out and vote. Do not take democracy for granted. And when you do vote, I hope you cast your ballot for a Governor who will carefully balance the needs of Florida's abundant and beautiful natural resources with the needs of man.

Bob Martinez -- and I've been in his home; I've known him for years. He's been in our home up in Washington -- he believes in the Florida dream. We can make the most of economic opportunity while protecting this state's special way of life.

And so my appeal to you tonight on behalf of your state and nation is to vote for a leader who can take Florida forward. Vote for Governor Bob Martinez. (Applause.)

Thank you for all you have done for our country and for our party. (Applause.) And now go out and give America a better deal. (Applause.) Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

END

5:48 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Sioux City, Iowa)

For Immediate Release

November 2, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO IOWA WELCOME RECEPTION

Sioux City Convention Center
Sioux City, Iowa

6:16 P.M. CST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Somehow it seems like I just left. But thank you. I am delighted to be back in the Hawkeye State, and in Sioux City. (Applause.) This all-American city whose citizens had planned this marvelous emergency response; a city that was ready for the worst kind of a challenge; a city that opened its hearts to the survivors of a tragedy; a city that inspired the world. Thank you for all you've done. (Applause.)

And I'm delighted to be standing here with a United States Senator who does support me, and I say, support you, the people of Iowa, for our common objectives. An old friend -- and I'm talking about Chuck Grassley who is making such an outstanding record in the United States Senate. (Applause.)

Let me say a word about his former spokeswoman who is now so outspoken on behalf of her husband. What a fantastic campaigner. She is fantastic. Barbara sends her love. I'm talking about Bev Tauke. (Applause.) She's marvelous.

I see some other party leaders, all of whom have been introduced, and I want to thank them. I want to single out the Congressman from the 5th District, an early and longtime supporter and friend -- Congressman Jim Lightfoot, over here. (Applause.) And, of course, your very own, from the 6th District, Fred Grandy. What a job he's doing for his country. (Applause.)

And let me also salute Joy Corning and your next lieutenant governor and the rest of the Iowa ticket. (Applause.)

That brings me to the main course -- two great Iowans, a great present Congressman, a great future senator -- Tom Tauke; and a great Governor Terry Branstad. Oh, how we need them both reelected -- and elected. (Applause.)

You know, as I looked across the national scene, I can't think of any governor who faced a stronger challenge than Terry did in his first two terms. But he prevailed because he believed in the ethic that Tom was talking about. He believed in controlling spending and promoting enterprise. And as the Omaha World Herald put it, Brandstad gave the state of Iowa sensible leadership through the hard times of the past few years, and guided the state into its current recovery.

Terry is more than a Governor who withstood the test of hard times. He's fought for one of the best state educational systems in the entire country. He's more than a Governor. He's a leader, and he's leading Iowa into an even greater future. Send this man back to the Statehouse. (Applause.)

I might add that it's little surprise that at the Charlottesville Education Summit, this first national summit on education with the President and all governors, Terry and I worked

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closely to reform American education. Just as he's worked for better schools right here in Iowa. And in short, he has been good for Iowa. He's won your support the old-fashioned way; he earned it. And he was also instrumental in formulating these national educational goals for the entire country. And I need him now reelected to be sure those goals are met for the entire nation. (Applause.)

And now a word about another old friend, a man I've known for many years. We're here on behalf of him. He's also earned the right to represent Iowa. He's has a tireless family -- he's a tireless fighter for the family, for the taxpayer, and for the farmer. And the working people of the 2nd District and all of Iowa. And I'm, of course, talking about your next United States senator, Tom Tauke. (Applause.)

You may not know the whole story of why he decided to run for the Senate. Let me tell you about it. It turns out he was walking right through a field one day, almost lost between towering stalks of corn when he heard a voice -- (laughter) -- and the voice said, "If you run, you will win." (Laughter.) So Field of Dreams aside, I share your dream that he be elected to the United States Senate on Tuesday. We need him bad. (Applause.)

We need him. We need him. And it is not my habit to speak against anyone's opponent. I haven't done that and I'm not going to start now. I'm here to be for Tom Tauke. But I want to just say that I would like to have somebody in the United States Senate that supports me and my objectives a little bit more and not less than Ted Kennedy. (Laughter.) So you figure it out. (Applause.) What he told you about support -- what he told you about his opponent's support for the President is true. It's written in the Congressional Quarterly. I urge you to look it up.

You know, ours is a party with a vision. We are the party with new ideas. A vision, a change, a sweep of new thinking that can only come with more Republicans. And we're also a party that's committed to a growing economy -- that job-creating engine that every family in American counts on.

And I know in recent months nationally -- delighted the Iowa economy is doing well -- but nationally, we've seen some uncertainty and concern about slower economic growth. And that's why I was -- as President, I had to make a tough decision on this deficit deal. After difficult negotiations we finally reached that agreement with the party that controls Congress, both Houses -- controlled by the liberal elements of the Democratic Party. And the Democrats wanted to raise taxes including income taxes on working Americans. And they called it -- and Tom stood up and knocked this down -- they called it "soak the rich." But here's the fact -- their proposed surtax on the rich to raise -- I think it would have raised \$4 billion, was in the very same bill. They were yelling about that. And the liberal Democrats in that same legislation rammed through taxes on the working man and woman of \$40 billion. Four billion dollars to soak the rich and \$40 billion to hit the working man and woman of Iowa. We need Tom Tauke -- not more of these liberal spenders in Washington, D.C. (Applause.)

And I agree with Tom. I agree if we had more like him and Fred Grandy and Jim and Chuck Grassley, we could get the job done by more cuts in spending and less taxes out of your pocket. Because it is our theory that we don't tax you too little, Washington and the Democrats spend too much. (Applause.)

You know, Terry Branstad can give us all a good, sound lecture on cutting waste. Forty-three governors, like him, already use the line-item veto. I believe -- he told me he's used it 120 times, working for the taxpayers of this state. And this is an example not lost on Tom Tauke, who has sponsored and fought for the line-item veto where it is needed most of all -- in Washington, D.C. And if we put Tom and more like him in the Senate, we can make that line-item veto the law of the land. And if Congress can't do it, give the President a chance to cut that spending. (Applause.)

I'd also like to ask you to compare the records on our crime legislation -- legislation to try to curtail crime at the federal level. Shortly after I took office I stood before the United States Capitol and called on the Congress to pass tough new laws to help America take back the streets. And instead, in the final hours of this Congress, Democratic liberals completely gutted our package to fight against violent crime.

Now, let me just tell you what Tom Tauke and I want. We want habeas corpus reform because convicted criminals should not be able to endlessly delay justice. (Applause.) We want to reform the exclusionary rule so this judge-made law won't let the guilty go free. (Applause.) And because we believe in backing up our law enforcement officials we want something else -- we want a federal death penalty for drug kingpins, for terrorists, and those who wipe out a federal law enforcement officials. Republicans are the ones who have more sympathy for the victims and a little bit less for the criminals. (Applause.) That's the kind of vote we need in the Senate. (Applause.)

I really believe -- I believe we're beginning to win this war against drugs. Our national strategy is beginning to work. And there's some heartening information about this -- heartening evidence and statistical evidence. So I don't want to be here with a message of gloom and doom. I believe the nation is waking up to the idea that we can no longer tolerate the drug culture. But I would say this: We need people like Tom Tauke in the Senate so justice can be done. I happen to believe that a strong offense against the narcotic traffickers is what we need, not this coddling by the law that the Democrats have put up with. (Applause.)

And there are many, many other reforms. We've also, frankly, achieved a lot. I don't want to be just on the negative side -- we've achieved a lot recently. Remarkable, considering that we're a minority in the House and a minority in the United States Senate. We fought for a responsible Clean Air bill. And we asked Congress to cut acid rain; to cut smog by harnessing new technology with the power of the marketplace. We fought for this and we won it. And one of the ways we can clean the skies of America is, as you know in this state so well, with alternative fuels, so we can cut our dependence on foreign and give our business to the American farmer. (Applause.)

Another good thing that Tom and his fellow Iowans in the Senate and House Republicans have fought for was a responsible child care law. One that rejects that old liberal Democrat idea of warehousing children. One that would put choice in the hands of American families. Republicans want to empower parents, not the government, to choose those who will take care of their children. (Applause.) And we won that battle, thanks to Tom and others. (Applause.)

So I guess what it boils down to is our vision. A vision based on good, old-fashioned family values. In education, in child care, in protecting the environment, Republicans are the ones that are determined to bring hope and opportunity to millions taken for granted by the Democrats. And if ever you despair about our political process, think that it's not working, remember this is your country. It belongs to those who work in the fields and the factories. And it belongs to those who teach the children of Iowa so well -- and God bless our teachers for the job their doing with our young people. (Applause.)

America belongs to the people. And America's leaders should reflect that simple fact. And so let's make Election Day an opportunity day. Let's return, of course, Jim Lightfoot and Fred Grandy to the Congress. (Applause.) That's off to a good start right there. (Applause.) And let's send our great Governor back to Des Moines -- Terry Branstad. (Applause.) And then let's take a look at that Senate and send me some people that I can work with for the values that you believe in. (Applause.)

Someone to help Chuck Grassley. (Applause.) Someone to help Chuck Grassley, not just cancel out his vote on every issue. And I'm, of course, talking about Barbara and my friend, Tom Tauke. Elect him on Tuesday. Work your heart out. We need him. He can make a difference for Iowa and for the United States of America.

Thank you, and God bless the United States.

END

6:30 P.M. CST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 13, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO GOP SENATE LEADERSHIP

Union Station
Washington, D.C.

7:54 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Bob, thank you very much for those kind words, and let me just say how pleased Barbara and I are to be here. You all did a smart thing today in returning a true Republican leader to office -- Bob Dole. (Applause.) In fact, Millie has already sent her congratulations to Leader. (Laughter.)

I really wanted to be here for a lot of reasons, but one of them is to -- because Bob has led our policy with style and wit, and with precision, with integrity. I've come to count on him every single day. And he's been a great Republican leader, as great as any in the past. And I say that -- we had another great one sitting here tonight -- Howard Baker. (Applause.) And I also think of Joy's dad, Everett Dirksen -- great, great leaders. But I think we would all agree that Bob Dole is doing an exceptional and an outstanding job. And, again, I count my blessings that he's leader in the United States Senate for our party. (Applause.)

While I'm at it, I want to congratulate the new head of the Red Cross, someone I will miss at our Cabinet meetings. And I'm very sorry she couldn't be with us. She's up still laboring under the Labor portfolio up there in New York at a big meeting of the AFL-CIO, I believe it is. But, anyway, let me just say to you, my friends in the Senate, what I've told -- tried to tell outside world when Elizabeth and I walked into the press room -- she has done an outstanding job for this country. And it's right and proper now that she go on to this new challenge. But what a superb Secretary of Labor she's been. Bob, tell her we miss her here tonight. (Applause.)

And, of course, then on the rest of our leadership -- Al Simpson -- back from a landslide, proving that adage that you can fool some of the people all of the time. (Laughter.) But nevertheless, I congratulate him. And a congratulations to the newly-elected conference chairman, Thad Cochran; and the Secretary, Senator Bob Kasten. To Phil Gramm, a fellow Texan, Senatorial Campaign Committee Chairman. Don Nichols, now the new Policy Committee Chairman. And I look forward to working closely with every single one of you. And I would say to those who didn't make it, you didn't lose at all. And it's a -- I detected at least a wonderful spirit of comradery upstairs. And the party here in the Senate is together and strong. And we've got great new leadership.

Let me also acknowledge the four senators among us who have left their mark on our party and our nation. Senator Bill Armstrong has been a superb Chairman of the Policy Committee and now he returns to Colorado. What a great Senator he's been. (Applause.)

And I didn't see Gordon Humphrey. But if he's here, let me say that he's done an outstanding job. And now he's taken his case back at the grassroots level in the state of New Hampshire. And I admire him and I respect him for that. (Applause.)

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And when I arrived in Washington as -- you won't believe this -- a skinny freshman in the House of Representatives, one of the first friends that I found was a colleague by the name of Jim McClure. We were elected in November in 1966. And since then I've seen him leave the House and become a truly great Senator from Idaho. And over the years, I can just say that Barbara and I have treasured our friendship with Jim and Louise. And I wish him all the very best, if he's out there -- I think he is somewhere. (Applause.)

And then, of course, Bob so appropriately saluted the other leaving a legacy of leadership here -- Rudy Boschwitz. Rudy was on the National Committee when I was Chairman of the Republican Committee. And we've been friends every since. And I'll tell you, if there was ever a hurt -- a personal hurt -- coming out of this election, it was the Minnesota Senate race. But I have this wonderful, warm feeling that we haven't heard the last from Rudy Boschwitz. (Applause.) And I'll tell you, we love him and we thank him for what he did. (Applause.)

And then, of course, I just want to add my hearty congratulations to Hank Brown, to Larry Craig and to Bob Smith, and to say that I look forward to working with all of you. You've won a great victory for our party. And I think we're going to win a lot of victories for our country. And so, once again, to the three newly-elected members of this Senate, congratulations and best of luck to each and every one of you.

And now let me just conclude by saying that we gather here one week -- it seems like eons ago to me -- but one week after the American people turned to the polls and returned to Washington a government divided. It's a government that's divided by party; it's a government that's divided by purpose and vision.

But our purpose as a party and my purpose remains undivided and clear. And we are as committed as ever to private sector, pro-growth solutions, expanding our economy, not arguing over how the economic pie should be divided. We are as committed as ever to opportunity, not the failed policies that we fought here in the last Congress on the taxing and spending of the liberals. (Applause.) And we will, as a Republican President and Republican senators, fight the opposition and fight the special interests for the sake of the national interest.

You know the world is changing, and those changes are going to produce exciting new challenges. Working together, we can prepare this great country to meet those challenges and lead the world into the 21st century. In my view, a lot of the action is going to be at the state level. And this brings me to one who left the Senate to move to the state level and the biggest state in the United States. And I'm talking, of course, about Pete Wilson and his superb win out there in California. (Applause.)

As I look at our national agenda, it seems to me we've got to keep in mind that the government closest to the people does govern best. And, Pete, I look forward to working with you. I know all the Senate does in working with you and the other Republican governors and other governors to make this country just a little better.

You know, in the year ahead, perhaps we should draw some inspiration from a great American of the last century. I want to read you some words: "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably in themselves will not be realized. Make big plans. Aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble idea once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing."

The man who wrote those words was Daniel Burnham, the architect who conceived and built this great Union Station. And as we had a chance earlier to look around at the ceilings and the gilded geometry that sprang from one man's imagination, let's remember to make big plans, to aim high in hope and work.

These are not particularly easy times. As we look -- Bob referred to the situation in the Gulf. It is my view that the United States will not and must not fail in its objectives. And the objectives are clearly outlined in the resolutions -- 10 resolutions -- of the United Nations Security Council. And it isn't a question simply of the economic interests of the world. And they are enormous, as you see the Third World driven to its knees already by the results of Saddam Hussein's aggression by -- aggression against Kuwait.

It isn't simply the economic matters -- and they are enormous because we have enormous economic stakes in what happens in that part of the world. And I can think of nothing worse than to see an aggression rewarded. And then tomorrow to have the economic news tightened even further. We're already feeling the pinches in this country of what he's done.

But there's another and a more fundamental principle involved. And that is that one big nation not take over another; one big nation cannot bully and beat into submission another. And it is my view that the United States alone can lead and stand on principle to be sure that we don't set a dangerous precedent for tomorrow.

And so I stand here to tell you that I am grateful for your support. And I am more determined than I've ever been that we hold this magnificent historic coalition together and that we not fall short of our objectives which have been clearly stated. The United States will not and must not fail. And to achieve that end, I need your support. And I'm grateful for that which you have already given to me and thus to our country. But these are serious times. And I expect I would be falling short of my -- what's in my heart if I didn't tell you I am grateful to each and every one of you who have been able to support us in these very difficult times.

Thank you, and God bless you all. And, Bob, thank you for your magnificent leadership once again. (Applause.)

END

8:05 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Monterrey, Mexico)

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 11:15 A.M. CST
12:15 P.M. EST
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1990

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE JOINT ADDRESS TO MONTERREY COMMUNITY

City Theater
Monterrey, Mexico

November 27, 1990

It's a pleasure to again spend time with your President. From the chambers of the United Nations, to the halls of the Kremlin, to the palaces of Paris and Prague the world recognizes that Mexico has one the most dynamic and creative leaders of our generation, your President, President Salinas.

Little surprise, then, that one of my first acts as President-elect was to meet with your President in my hometown of Houston. Yesterday, President Salinas returned the favor by sharing with us the beauty of his hometown. And it was there, in Agualeguas, that I saw many similarities in our backgrounds. Both of us are the sons of Senators. Both of us were raised to believe in public service. And both of us know that what is true for two people is true for two nations: Friendship makes us stronger.

I know that my country is also stronger because of Mexico's contribution to our cultural heritage: A rich bequest of architecture, language and culture. So when I speak of Americans and Mexicans, I can only say: Somos una familia: We are one family.

Of course, we are still distinct societies with very different identities, as we should be. But we have, at long last, discarded hollow fears and worn-out cliches. And as the world watches, we are working together in a spirit of mutual respect. The world is also watching because President Salinas is leading Mexico through an era of exciting, unprecedented reform. Like the Aztec eagle, Mexico is rising again as a 21st-century giant, greater than ever. The Mexican Renaissance has begun.

Right from the start, President Salinas, his fellow leaders and the Mexican people have shown unflagging courage, even in the midst of a grave financial crisis, high inflation and a devastating hurricane. Such courage does not go unrewarded. And that is why Mexico is growing stronger by the day.

The world celebrates the impressive success Mexico has achieved in opening its economy so quickly, in restructuring its debt more intelligently, and in reforming its national economy more wisely. These are bold moves. But we live in a time that demands bold action.

The world has not seen such rapid change since the last meeting in Monterrey between a U.S. President and a Mexican President. In 1943, when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt came here to consult with President Avila Camacho, we were allies in a life-or-death struggle against tyranny.

That war ended in 1945. Another struggle, a cold war, came to a peaceful end in 1990. Yet even as the challenges change, the nature of our relationship as colleagues, neighbors and friends endures and grows. This is what we mean by the spirit of Houston and Monterrey.

And it is in this spirit of friendship that we can work together to confront new challenges: To advance democracy and human rights, to provide for the economic prosperity and well-being of our citizens, to struggle together to protect our youth from drugs, and to protect our common environment from pollution.

As we meet, we are poised to conclude negotiations on international trade that will bring greater opportunity to our peoples. We must press now for the successful conclusion of the world trade talks known as the Uruguay Round of GATT. The critical moment is at hand. We must not let the Uruguay Round fail.

As two of the world's largest economies, we must insist that all our trading partners act in a spirit of fairness and openness. We know all too well that trade-distorting subsidies and artificial barriers create winners and losers before the game even begins. We must insist that trade with the nations of Europe, Asia and elsewhere, at the very least be conducted on a level playing field.

Certainly, we have seen what trade liberalization can do just between two countries. Since Mexico entered GATT and lowered its tariffs, our two-way trade has boomed; from \$37 billion in 1987, to over \$50 billion in 1989 and figures are still climbing in 1990.

The maquiladora industry alone boasts of more than 1,700 plants, all generating foreign exchange for Mexico. Go to the leading automotive or electronics plants here in Northern Mexico, and you will find standards that are not excelled anywhere in the world. The world demands quality, and U.S. and Mexican workers can provide it.

But the size and sophistication of U.S.-Mexico trade today only hints at our potential. We can create and share unprecedented prosperity and jobs. That is why we both want to conclude a Bilateral Free Trade Agreement.

This agreement will not only allow us to expand markets. It will allow us to expand opportunity. Together, we can allow two economies to work in complementary ways. Together, we can produce goods and services that are world-class competitive. Free trade is good for the United States and good for Mexico. Good for American workers and good for the workers of Mexico.

I look forward to the day when we will meet to sign our names to a free trade agreement that will write a new page in North American history.

But while we endorse a common market, we reject the idea of a world divided into isolated trading blocs. The United States and Mexico must set an example for all nations. In my Enterprise for the Americas Initiative, I sketched out a vision of a hemisphere open to the free movement of goods, services, and ideas from Anchorage to Montevideo. This is a vision that President Salinas shares, for he knows that Mexico is a critical link in this chain of progress.

Your great poet and 1990 Nobel laureate, Octavio Paz, wrote that: "Mexico has been, and is, a boundary between peoples and civilizations . . . Boundaries, however, are not only disjunctive obstacles, they are also bridges." Let our work together build ever more bridges to join North and South.

But of course our bilateral cooperation extends far beyond commerce. Our peoples live in peace and freedom; but halfway around the world, a brutal unprovoked aggression shattered the peaceful desert sky.

Once again, Mexico and the United States stand united in rejecting aggression. This time, that of the dictator of Iraq. Mexico is opposing this aggression with a strong and respected voice in the United Nations, and by increasing its contribution to the world oil market. And so I am here today to thank Mexico and thank your President and to salute the Mexican people for your leadership, your world leadership.

What could not be done in the past can be done today. The world of global conflict is giving way to a new world order of global cooperation.

Next week, when I visit your sister republics in South America, I'll discuss the historic nuclear non-proliferation treaty pioneered by Mexico in 1967. This treaty has played an important role in keeping this Hemisphere free of the dangerous competition of nuclear weapons that threatens so many other regions of the world.

But there is another threat to the peace, one that is more subtle, one that knows no nationality and respects no border. I'm talking about drugs and the violence they bring. Both President Salinas and I have committed our governments to a decisive victory over drug trafficking.

Like all conflicts, the drug war claims casualties. Each time a hero falls, it doesn't matter if he loses his life on my side or your side of the border. Let no one doubt our resolve. We will not be divided against each other, dissuaded from seeking justice, or frightened into submission. We must not flag or fail. We must and we will win this war.

We know that what affects one of us, affects both of us. This no less true when it comes to our common environment, critical to the future of both our nations. A few weeks ago, I signed the first comprehensive Clean Air legislation in thirteen years; new legislation that will benefit not just my country, but the world. We are also working with you to improve air quality in our large cities and reduce pollution along our common border. If I may paraphrase your President, the children of Los Angeles and Mexico City deserve blue skies by day and stars to wish upon by night. And they deserve nothing less.

Your President and I also understand that our two nations have much to share in a greater marketplace, the marketplace of ideas. That is why we have created the U.S.-Mexico Commission for Educational and Cultural Cooperation, a new way to promote a dialogue among our scholars, our artists, and our educators. And when our brightest men and women confer, I believe one of the things they will tell us is this: We are facing a new century. So let us begin this new century not simply as neighbors, but as friends. Let us begin this new century not as mere partners in trade, but as partners in leadership.

Standing alone, we are still the nations that produced giants of leadership like Washington and Hidalgo, giants of freedom like Lincoln and Juarez, and giants of the spirit like Carl Sandburg and Octavio Paz. But as great as our two nations are when we stand together, we are never taller than when we stand for principle.

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telephone loan risk, and in effect turn control of the program over to the borrowers.

I also note that in enacting amendments to the law governing the Rural Telephone Bank Board, the Congress provided that the members of the Board would exercise management authority "within the limitations prescribed by law." Consistent with my obligation to construe statutory provisions to avoid raising constitutional questions, I construe this savings provision to embody the recognition that those Board members not appointed in conformity with the Constitution cannot exercise the authority vested by the Constitution in officers of the United States.

I further note that a number of other provisions of the bill could be construed to vest governmental authority in private parties. These provisions appear to raise constitutional concerns, and I am accordingly directing the Secretary of Agriculture to consult the Attorney General to consider whether curative legislation or other action is needed to ensure that these authorities are exercised as the Constitution requires.

In spite of these drawbacks, on balance I have before me a farm bill that will enhance the competitiveness of our farmers and the health of our citizens. My gratitude goes to those who have worked so tirelessly to produce this legislation: concerned citizens, Members of Congress, and my own Administration. I look forward to continued prosperity in the agricultural economy and good health and nutrition for our citizens.

This is not a perfect farm bill either from my perspective or from that of many Members of Congress. But the vision of all who worked on this legislation is the same: prosperity for our agricultural sector and the nutritional well-being of our people. The bill before me is faithful to our shared vision.

George Bush

The White House,
Nov. 28, 1990.

Note: S. 2830, approved November 28, was assigned Public Law No. 101-624.

Remarks on Signing the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act

November 28, 1990

Well, thank you all very much for being here today. And of course, it's great to be with our enthusiastic and effective Secretary of HUD [Housing and Urban Development], Jack Kemp, who deserves great credit for what we're about to do here. And of course, I want to salute the Members of Congress—they've been so helpful and instrumental in this—who are with us today. I see Kit Bond, and Al D'Amato was to be—they're sitting there. And I want to thank, particularly, the chairmen of the Banking Committee, Senator Riegle and Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez, for their work on this. I'm told that their counterparts, Jake Garn and Chalmers Wylie, are not with us today, the ranking Republicans on the committee; but I also want to thank them for their remarkable efforts.

I understand that some mayors are in town. Quite a few mayors and other local elected officials are with us, and I want to welcome them to the White House. I'm told that Kimi Gray is here, over here. And Kimi, you're kind of a symbol of hope for the aspirations of a lot of people, and I'm just delighted you're here with us today.

Now, let me start with a story, a bit of history—1862, the middle of the Civil War. And on May 20th of that year, Abraham Lincoln sat down with pen in hand and signed into law the Homestead Act of 1862. And that bill gave 160 acres to any family who wanted to make a go of it in the wilderness and reach for the American dream.

It is one of the most successful endeavors in American history, causing the great land rush to the Wild West and forming the vision for a new homesteading program in urban America today. Because Abraham Lincoln's Homestead Act empowered people, it freed people from the burden of poverty. It freed them to control their own destinies, to create their own opportunities, and to live the vision of the American dream. Likewise today, creating the opportunity for low-income Americans to become property owners is a key to fighting poverty and offering real hope to thousands.

I've said before effort to reduce ment is this idea bureaucracies, a people, poor over their own and jobs so that life of dignity, r opportunity. Sec a champion of have appointed mestic Policy Empowerment

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Caracas, Venezuela)

For Immediate Release

December 7, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT DINNER TOAST

La Casona
Caracas, Venezuela

9:35 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. President, thank you for those very kind words and a very important speech. It is wonderful to be back in this great nation and this lovely city of Caracas. I well remember my last visit to Venezuela, a much more somber occasion. I was in your country as Vice President in December of 1981 to pay my respects to a great founding father and defender of Venezuelan democracy, Romulo Betancourt.

Now, nine years later, there is cause to rejoice, for the vision of Betancourt and Carlos Andres Perez is being realized in the Americas. Just look at what's happened in one decade: Democracy has been restored in Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Uruguay, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, Chile, and Paraguay -- leaving Cuba as the lonely totalitarian holdout in our hemisphere. So we are close, very close, to a democratic hemisphere, from Alaska to Argentina. And I am here today to declare that this era of peaceful change came about, in no small part, because of the unwavering leadership and example of a democratic Venezuela.

Like President Betancourt, you, Mr. President, have been a creative democratic leader. Like Simon Bolivar, you have carried on a legacy as a standard bearer of liberty. Mister President -- Cap to me and many other leaders in this hemisphere -- (laughter) -- those who love freedom in the Americas know that you and Venezuela are always on their side. And it's because of your leadership that we're seeing, once again, that freedom at the ballot box inevitably leads to freedom in the marketplace; that free political systems and free enterprise go hand in hand. Just one more reason why Venezuela's future is as limitless as your people's industry and imagination.

I know that the economic reform program that you launched upon taking office has been, at times, difficult. But you've stayed true to principle. And you stayed true to Venezuela's future -- a future of prosperity and democracy.

The good relations that exist between my government and yours are especially welcome because my family, the Bush family, has had a close connection to Venezuela. Our son, Jeb, lived and worked here in Caracas not so many years ago. And I certainly know firsthand how important Venezuela's leadership is to my country, and how a prosperous and democratic Venezuela is essential to our hemispheric community. And that is why I especially look forward to cooperating closely with Venezuela in carrying out our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative.

It is my hope that the day will be brought closer when, as Simon Bolivar wrote in 1818, all of the New World can assume a place "with a description of majesty and grandeur unprecedented in the Old World."

And so, with a heart full of gratitude and thanks, let me close with a toast to President Perez and the Venezuelan people. I believe it will be recognized and appreciated here: "Manos a la obra." (Applause.)

(A toast is offered.)

END

9:45 P.M. (L)

For Immediate Release

September 24, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRESIDENT FREDERIK DE KLERK OF SOUTH AFRICA
UPON DEPARTURE

The South Portico

1:30 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: To our friends from South Africa, once again, welcome to the White House. We've just come from an extraordinarily useful meeting. President de Klerk and I have conversed on the phone several times in the past, but it was a great pleasure to hold this face-to-face meeting with the first South African leader to visit the United States in more than 40 years.

President de Klerk described for me in detail what he is trying to accomplish in South Africa. The process of ending apartheid and negotiating a new political reality for all. We talked of this very promising, sometimes difficult situation, especially the recent violence. And I think all Americans recognize that President de Klerk is courageously trying to change things.

After all, we have seen in other parts of the world the culture of political violence overwhelm the culture of dialogue. And this must not happen to South Africa. The government has a special responsibility to maintain order, but all political parties and groups have a special responsibility to support the process of peaceful transition.

One thing is apparent in this process of change: the move away from apartheid toward a new political reality is indeed irreversible. And much has already happened. Leading political figures, including Nelson Mandela, have been released from prison. The government and the ANC -- the African National Congress -- have reached an agreement on a plan for the release of the remaining political prisoners. Political organizations banned for years are now free to conduct peaceful political activities, and restraints on the media have largely been removed. A framework has been agreed to between the ANC and the government to lead to negotiations over the political future of the country. Other groups are invited to join in. Except for the beleaguered Natal, the nationwide state of emergency has been lifted through the country.

Who among us only a year ago would have anticipated these remarkable developments? Clearly, the time has come to encourage and assist the emerging new South Africa. The United States clearly endorses the principle of constitutional democratic government in South Africa. And I'm here to tell you that I have enormous respect for what President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela are trying to achieve together in pursuit of this principle.

And it is not simply this President. I believe, sir, it's the entire American people that feel that way.

South Africa needs a constitutional system based on regular and free elections with universal suffrage; a civil society where authority is responsible in every sense of the word. South Africa needs an unvarying respect for human rights and equal opportunity for all its citizens. And we would also like to see an economic system that's based on freedom and individual initiative and market forces.

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We believe that only a society that opens equal opportunity to all can remedy the social and economic deprivations inflicted on so many people for so many years by apartheid. And President de Klerk agrees with this principle of equal opportunity for all.

And it is in such a context that the issue of sanctions often arises. Although our meetings today were not about sanctions, obviously, we discussed it; the topic did come up. And let me just say a quick word. As I stated, we believe the process of change in South Africa is irreversible. A fact that we'll bear squarely in mind as we consider specific issues in the future. Our goal must be to support the process of change. And, of course, I will consult fully with the Congress on these issues. And as you know, all the conditions set in our legislation have not yet been made, in spite of the dramatic progress that we salute here today.

But let me emphasize that these conditions are clear-cut and are not open to reinterpretation. And I do not believe in moving the goalposts.

Finally, we will be in touch with our traditional allies in Western Europe and elsewhere on what we can do to help build democracy in South Africa. It is only in this way that South Africa can again be fully accepted into the wider international community.

Apartheid has long hindered South Africa from within, depriving it of the talent and very dreams of millions of men and women. Little wonder then that the end of apartheid holds the promise of unleashing the creative energies of the restless millions. And that's why the end of apartheid can really mean the beginning of a greater South Africa.

Mr. President, if you're successful in this effort, South Africa around the world will become a beloved country, not for one people, but for all. And for that -- your efforts, your courage -- you leave with our gratitude, our appreciation and a hearty Godspeed. Good luck to you, sir, in this wonderful endeavor. We're pleased you're here. Very pleased, indeed. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT DE KLERK: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, may I, at the outset, also say publicly how appreciative we are of the very kind reception which we have had here in the United States of America. For us it is indeed an historical occasion for me to be the first state President ever to visit the shores of America from South Africa.

From the moment we set foot here, we've been overwhelmed with friendliness. And in particular, Mr. President, I want to thank you for the very frank, very open and very fruitful discussions which we were able to have today for over two hours.

I want to say, Mr. President, that from the people of South Africa I bring a message. A message of recognition for the awesome responsibility which rests upon your shoulders in the handling of the very difficult situation in the Gulf. We admire you for the strong leadership which you have shown, and South Africa has fully identified itself with that leadership. You can count on us, as we have publicly stated, to support the steps you have taken to assure that democracy, and that the political process of dialogue and the political process of keeping all channels open will also be maintained in that part of the world. We will support you, sir, in the very definite steps you have taken to assure that the unacceptable form of aggression which manifested itself there will be withstood. And South Africa will play its part in that regard. We wish you well in handling this awesome and tremendous responsibility.

Mr. President, I want to thank you for the acknowledgement of the new reality which exists in South Africa. There is, indeed, as you have stated, sir, a new reality. And the process in South Africa is indeed an irreversible one. There will be negotiations. And from those negotiations there will come about a

new constitutional situation, a new constitution which will offer full political rights within the framework of internationally-acceptable definitions of what democracy really is.

There will be a vote of equal value to all South Africans. There will be effective protection of the very values which you in the United States of America hold so dearly. Values such as an independent judiciary; such as effective protection of the rights of the individual in the form of a bill of rights, of checks and balances to prevent the abuse of majority power to the detriment or suppression of minorities and smaller communities. There will be, in South Africa, the protection of fundamental values with regard to the assurance of an economic system which will create sufficient growth to meet the tremendous challenges which we face in the field of addressing the problems of poverty and illiteracy and housing and urbanization.

There will be in South Africa -- the process is irreversible -- through negotiation a new constitutional and economic dispensation which will offer equal opportunities and full democratic rights to all its people. In that sense of the word, the international community can rely on us. We will not turn back. The fact, sir, that you have today given recognition to this fact, will serve as inspiration to us. We stand on the threshold of a tremendously exciting period in the history of our country. We are adamant to use the window of opportunity which history has given us to assure that we will bring about a new and just South Africa.

In that process, the government of South Africa won't be acting unilaterally. Our goal is to bring about this fundamental change, to bring about this new and just South Africa on the basis of building and achieving a broad consensus between all the leaders with proven constituencies, whether they be large or small, in South Africa.

We are making headway with that. There are some stumbling blocks in the way. We have a problem of volatility to deal with which sometimes erupts into violent situations which are totally unacceptable. We've taken steps in an impartial manner, through the use of our security forces, curbed the violence. We are as anxious as you are, sir, that we should move as soon as possible to a situation where, also in the province of Natal, the state of emergency can be lifted and where the political process in South Africa can be fully normalized. We've already taken great steps in that direction.

I view, Mr. President, today as an important moment where real progress has been attained in normalizing our country's situation with regard to the international community. You, sir, as leader of the strongest country in the world, economically speaking and militarily speaking. Your acknowledgement of the progress which we have made and your encouragement with regard to the progress which we are committed to make in the future is, for us, extremely important.

I thank you for the warm reception. And I look beyond the immediate problems and the historical problems. Forward also to the day when South Africa -- the new South Africa, with a new constitution and a new government -- will, together with the United States of America and other important powers, being one of the strongest regional powers in the Southern Hemisphere; being the hope of the rebuilding of prosperity and opportunity for almost the whole Continent of Africa; where South Africa will, by taking hands as we are now already doing with you and with others, will play a constructive role in ensuring stability on the globe; in ensuring that the vision which we share with you of peace between all countries, where we can make a contribution to ensure that that vision will also become reality.

We wish you, sir, and the American people everything of the best. We invite you to play the constructive role which you have spelled out here today. South Africa is going to overcome its

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problems. South Africa will become once again a proud member of the international community. And South Africa will be a trustworthy friend of the United States of America in maintaining the very values on which your system is built.

My country, ladies and gentlemen, today finds itself in step -- in step with the basic value systems of this great country, the United States of America. And we say to you, sir, thank you for a kind reception. Everything of the best in your endeavors to assure global peace. You will not find South Africa lacking in support when you need it. (Applause.)

END

1:43 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Boise, Idaho)

For Immediate Release

July 19, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT LARRY CRAIG FOR U.S. SENATE FUNDRAISING DINNER

Boise Centre on the Grove
Boise, Idaho

6:42 P.M. MDT

THE PRESIDENT: What a great crowd. My heavens. This is wonderful. Thank you all. Please, be seated. Thank you all very much. Larry, thank you. I hope you enjoy your dinner tonight. Rest assured, the Idaho potato is one vegetable I approve of. (Laughter and applause.) But I'm not going to put myself at risk that the other vegetable might be served, so I have to leave before dinner. (Laughter.) I hope you'll forgive me. But thank you all, really. You have a wonderful way of making me feel at home.

I want to salute Steve Symms, a great Senator, fierce advocate for Idaho and, indeed, for the fundamental principles of the United States. I want to salute the Lieutenant-Governor, and old friend of mine, Butch Otter. I see my fellow aviator down there, Pete Cenarrusa. He presented me with a model of the plane I flew a thousand years ago. The only good news is he got his wings three months before I did. So he's older and perhaps more experienced.

I want to salute the Attorney General Jim Jones; State Treasurer Edwards; and also Roger Fairchild, our distinguished nominee for governor of this state. And I want him to win. I want him to win the governorship. (Applause.)

Our outstanding successor -- and this has to be also -- successor to Larry Craig, Skip Smyser. We want to see him hold this seat that's so important to us. (Applause.) And we have another superb candidate running in the other seat -- Sean McDevitt. And it's important you give him your support -- a distinguished veteran of the United States military. (Applause.)

And a special salute to a 15-year-old from Boise whom I just met -- Olen Hsu -- who won this year's Idaho State Essay Contest. There he is, way down, tethered down on the end down there. (Applause.)

And we just had a receiving line in there, and so I say this from the bottom of my heart -- I wish that the pride of Wellesley was with me here tonight -- Barbara Bush. (Applause.) She was with me at the library with the four Presidents there. But now she's campaigning next door in Washington State. But, you know, I say this not just with husbandly pride, but I think with some objectivity -- I thought Barbara did a great job up at Wellesley talking about values -- values and family. (Applause.) And so that leads me to pay tribute to Suzanne Craig, who is such an important part of all of this -- important part in lifting a great career to new heights, doing so much for family. Let us all give a round of applause to Suzanne, and to the kids as well -- Mike, Shae and Jay. (Applause.)

And it is a delight to be back among friends in Idaho. I know you feel I'm like the bad penny turning up every couple of years for the last eight or ten. But you have this wonderful way of making

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somebody feel at home. It's especially delightful to be with you during this centennial year. Of course, we know that the history of this great state reaches beyond a century. If we had to choose the one day that Idaho history began, it would undoubtedly have to be March 4, 1863, when the first Republican President, Abraham Lincoln, created a new territory of the United States with a stroke of his pen. And as I look around this room, at Senator Symms and Congressman, Senator-to-be Larry Craig, and at our outstanding candidate for governor, Roger Fairchild, I can't help but reflect how fitting that this great State of Idaho and our Republican Party were born together.

Now a new century is beginning for Idaho. So let us make it a century of promise and prosperity. Let us do that by sending Larry Craig to the United States Senate. (Applause.)

You know, Larry is a whitewater rafter. And he's just the kind of guy who would enjoy a hair-raising adventure, with chills and spills, ups and downs, where you're knocked around and never sure if you're going to make it through in one piece. And that's just what it's like to run for the United States Senate. But nevertheless, he's going to make it, and come November, I'm sure he will have forded the river with this marvelous skill that he has demonstrated in the Congress. I believe that this is his destiny, to join the ranks of great Idaho statesmen, to follow in the footsteps of Borah and Symms, and my dear friend and former classmate in the Congress, Jim McClure. (Applause.)

Of course, I don't want to break any myths here, but Larry hasn't been a statesman all his life. In fact -- we did a little homework for this meeting -- Larry, I understand that when you were a boy, a farm boy in Midvale, you house-trained a pig. (Laughter.) Imagine that, your senator -- your senator-to-be, house-training a pig. (Laughter.) That ought to help him in Congress. (Laughter and applause.) And at a community car wash, you washed the hood of a farmer's brand new car -- unfortunately, using SOS pads. (Laughter.)

Well, given his decade of achievement in Congress and service to the people of the 1st District, I reckon that even that farmer has forgotten about his car and cast his vote for Larry Craig -- a strong, consistent, steady voice for Idaho, and for the bedrock principles and beliefs that Idahoans hold dear -- the freedom to own land, to reap the rewards of hard work, to provide for one's family -- and then an undying faith in God and country.

Larry embodies these values. That's why I have looked to him for advice as Congressman Craig. And I want to rely on Larry Craig's advice and consent in the years ahead -- when he is Senator Craig.

As you know, I presided over the Senate as Vice President when that body was controlled by Democrats, and earlier, by Republicans. And I can tell you this -- when it comes to an administration and a Congress working together, compromise is often necessary if you're going to make this great country go forward. But there is no substitute for having a United States Senate that shares our outlook, that will work with us to build a better America. And that means, in my view with considerable experience in Washington, a Republican Senate. And I need Larry Craig to hold that McClure seat to give us a chance to have a Republican Senate. (Applause.)

Electing Larry to the Senate would be a major step toward a Republican future, giving me a partner in leadership. After all, he and I share the same outlook. When it comes to our national defense, he says that it is strength, not weakness, that brought about the Revolution of '89. Larry and I believe that the marvelous changes -- and are they ever exciting -- taking place in Eastern Europe are a result of 40 years of American and allied vigilance. This is no time for America to turn its back on world leadership, nor to fundamentally weaken the defenses of this country. (Applause.)

As you know, in the last few weeks, I've attended three summits. One with Mr. Gorbachev, one NATO Summit over in London, and then the G-7 Economic Summit recently concluded in Houston. And the outcome of each summit has convinced me that we are on the right path, keeping America strong, but keeping America strong for peace.

The first summit, with Mikhail Gorbachev, made new progress toward an important goal -- engaging the Soviet Union as a constructive partner in the international community. The second summit with my NATO colleagues in London, confirmed the vitality of the Alliance of the Western democracies and reached out to the East to establish a lasting peace in Europe. And our third summit in Houston, recently concluded, with the great industrial democracies, lead to a consensus that we need to open up world trade, to give farmers, like those right here in Idaho, like those right here in this room, a better chance to compete.

We also discussed how we can help the nations of the East move toward freer economies and freer societies. But our message in Houston was clear. We must take the trade barriers down. Not just us, but all countries. Let's have a free and fair playing field for American products. And let's not us start throwing up new trade barriers of our own. The best answer for America is a level playing field because I am convinced not only our farmers but our businessmen can compete with anybody, anywhere in the world if the rules are fair. (Applause.)

And no one can convince me or Larry Craig that this extraordinary new world would have come about if America had followed the liberal path of military weakness and unilateral concessions.

Of course, there are still some liberal Democrats who would take America back to the days of big-spending, malaise, self-doubt and drift. Well, there's a river here in Idaho that sums up the course these liberals would have America take -- the River of No Return. (Laughter and applause.)

Well, America isn't taking that course. And Idaho voters want elected officials who will protect us from all threats -- threats from afar and from just down the street. And it's for this last reason that Idaho is going to support the candidate who sides with our policemen against the crooks, families against fear and kids against drugs -- and Larry Craig stands for all three of those. (Applause.)

And I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mayor and those leaders in the antidrug coalition -- volunteers who met with me before this meeting to explain to me what Boise is doing, trying to fight drugs, trying to help in education, trying to do -- what they're doing in law enforcement. It is an impressive program that I think has significance for the entire country.

Larry has been a strong champion, leading the fight for laws every bit as tough as the criminals we convict. But our war against drugs and crime will not, cannot, be won from Washington alone. In this war, we will also need to count on local heroes.

And right here in the Treasure Valley, a Boise policeman is doing his part by creating and leading, along with Senator Symms and Louise McClure, a volunteer organization that teaches substance abuse education -- Parents and Youth Against Drug Abuse. Prevention is our most critical tool against drug abuse, and that's one reason why I have come to Boise -- to thank all of the many people who have been on the front lines fighting against drugs. Once again, I was mightily impressed by what I heard this afternoon, and thank you for what you're doing not only for your community, but for the entire United States. (Applause.)

On so many issues -- Larry Craig and I will also work together for, not against, the right for a kid to pray voluntarily in the school. We will work to pass our Educational Excellence Act to encourage reform and restructuring of America's entire educational

system. And we will work against needless federal regulation of your schools. But Larry and I will work against unnecessary federal regulations that stifle opportunity and kill the aspirations of working men and women.

We agree that the congressional budget process is, at best, clumsy and illogical and, at worst, cynical and chaotic. In short, a metaphor for what's wrong with Washington today. As you know, that's why I am currently negotiating with the congressional leadership to bring this budget back towards balance. The deficit is estimated to be over \$160 billion. Congress, as the American people know, appropriates every dollar and tells the President how to spend every single penny.

And I have said I will negotiate without preconditions. And I will. And you've seen the firestorm about revenues on the table. Well, I've done my part and now it's their turn. A truly comprehensive package, not a temporary Band-Aid. There must be reform of the budget process and there must be real spending control. And the American people are entitled to it. (Applause.) And that's why this man's leadership is so valuable. He and I know that this problem stems from too much spending, not too few taxes.

And Larry Craig believes Congress must be forced to act responsibly. That's why he's been fighting, as the founder and chairman of Congressional Leaders United for a Balanced Budget, for the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. It would discipline my branch of the government, the Executive Branch, and it would discipline the congressional branch. Larry was the leader in signing up hundreds of Republicans and conservative Democrats in support of the amendment and in forcing congressional liberals to show their true colors in a direct, up-and-down floor vote just this past Tuesday. And we lost by just a handful of votes, a tremendous majority voted for the amendment, but we missed getting the required two-thirds by just seven votes, seven votes.

And finally, let me say just a few words about the philosophy that Larry and I share concerning something that's near and dear to the heart of everybody in Idaho. I know it is. I've been here. Every time I come here I sense it and, of course, I'm talking about the great outdoors; I'm talking about the environment.

We know that from Bear Lake to Pend Oreille, from the shadow of the Sawtooth clear up to Sandpoint, the Idaho way of life is special. I saw it -- I've just had a little fringe tastes of it but I saw it for myself when Jim McClure and I floated and fished the Middle Fork of the Snake River. And Idaho truly is the Gem State, as bright and clear as one of your deep mountain lakes. And your land is unique. And, yes, it does deserve to be protected.

But Larry and I also believe in protecting yet another kind of delicate ecology -- and I'm talking about jobs, I'm talking about homes, I'm talking about families. And we believe multiple-use land policies should govern most of our public lands. And we can have a sound economy and a healthy environment. They are not mutually exclusive. And I'm going to continue to fight to protect and enhance both. (Applause.)

I think everybody here would agree that the environmental policy of this country cannot be set by those who have no regard for our precious inheritance. That is a given. And I think of myself as an environmentalist. I care about the great outdoors. I love the recreational places in this country. And I guess one of the best things that happens to me is when I can see the wonders of nature through the eyes of my grandchildren. But the environmental policy of this country cannot, and will not, be set by the extremes on the fringe of the environmental movement. (Applause.) They're not going to do that to the working men and women in this country. (Applause.)

No, Idaho needs a strong, reasoned voice on natural resource policy. That's why, once again, Idaho needs Larry Craig in the United States Senate. (Applause.)

So here we are, and this is the Republican approach: a philosophy of environmental commitment, keeping America strong, laws tougher than the criminals who threaten us, and less government interference in the way you run your schools and in your state. And all this adds up to a very special kind of freedom, the Idaho way of life.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all you have done and all you are pledged to do to advance Republican leadership. And with Larry Craig on his way to the United States Senate, I know that Idaho is on its way to a great second century.

Thank you from the bottom of a grateful heart for this warm Idaho welcome. (Applause.) God bless you all. Thank you.

END

7:03 P.M. MDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 12, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE 30TH BIENNIAL CLERGY-LAITY BANQUET

Sheraton Ballroom
Sheraton Washington Hotel
Washington, D.C.

7:40 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Who would have thought that I would be introduced by Peter Jennings before a beautiful evening like this? It's just wonderful. (Applause.) Ted, thank you very, very much. Barbara and I are delighted to be here this evening. When Ted said that a person we hold in such reverence, I was ready. You see, I'm used to it now. I thought he was talking about Barbara, not the All Holiness. (Laughter and applause.)

I am so pleased to be with you. Your All Holiness, once again, welcome to the capital of our great nation. It was an honor and, I think, an appropriate honor for us to greet you in the Oval Office today. (Applause.) And I was proud to be at your side in the Rose Garden. (Applause.)

It's an extraordinary privilege tonight to be with you and your distinguished delegation, and also to be with our respected and revered friend, Archbishop Iakovos, who has distinguished himself -- (applause) -- in the 30 years that he's been the spiritual leader of your church in the Americas. I apologize for the order of the program and speaking before dinner, but Archbishop Iakovos said you were having broccoli and I figure I have to get out of here. (Laughter and applause.)

But to more serious things, Your All Holiness, meeting with you earlier today was a rare and an inspiring opportunity. Once again, I want to express my profound respect. You are a holy man of great spirituality and vision and humility, a gentle and revered pilgrim on this mission of peace. (Applause.)

We are especially blessed to be part of this historic journey: The first time in the 1400-year history of the Patriarchate that the successor to St. Andrew has visited the Western Hemisphere. (Applause.)

Greetings to all of you, the members of the 30th Clergy-Laity Conference from 555 parishes across the sweep of the Americas. I still remember the outpouring of warmth that you gave me when I had the privilege of addressing you two years ago and two years before that. It is a delight to see you again because I feel that we do have a special bond.

In particular, I cherish the Greek-American legacy of putting family values first. (Applause.) This is the finest example of what our country needs in order to be strong and wise and flourishing. We admire your unflinching devotion to the passing on of clear moral values, and your emphasis on the importance of a good education.

I noted that in the census returns for the last three decades, you have ranked the highest of any community in education. (Applause.) And I'm not just saying that because John Brádamus is here, either. (Laughter.) Also, you stress hard work and the

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individual initiative that creates opportunity and, thus, have become the backbone of small businesses throughout this country.

And statistics show that through your shining example of love and faith and of course family tradition, you've almost no crime and drug problems. And how wonderful -- (applause) -- and how wonderful that 3,000 of your young people this week took part in a forum about the bitter plague of drugs. (Applause.)

I also admire your strength as a community in which your Greek Orthodoxy means your deeply-rooted spiritual beliefs, as well as the richness of your cultural life. In any age when so many challenges threaten the fabric of our society, your intense devotion to your faith and traditions have made you messengers of hope. You share the richness of your ancient, undivided faith. You've impressed us with the vibrant ethnic vitality of your immigrant parents and grandparents -- I love what Ted Koppel said about that earlier -- and with your commitment to Christian service both here and in the lands of your ancestors' birth. They were drawn here by the beacon of Liberty's torch. And now, you are shining your own beacon of promise back to your homelands, always remembering the words of the Greek National Anthem: "Now as ever valor prizing/Hail, all hail sweet Liberty!" (Applause.)

And what a splendid place Washington is for you to meet. Here, in his hometown, you can proudly tell the story of your Greek-American predecessor, Constantino Brumidi. Brumidi, the Michelangelo of the U.S. Capitol. (Applause.) More than 100 years ago, Brumidi produced those eloquent friezes showing scenes from American history and said with reverence: "My one ambition is that I may live long enough to make beautiful the Capitol of the one country on Earth in which there is liberty." (Applause.)

In Washington, you can rejoice in the magnificence of your Cathedral of St. Sophia. When I was Vice President, I used to live just down the road from Aghia Sophia: the Cathedral of Holy Wisdom. How impressive is its rich Byzantine style. How moving the site of its candle-lit icons and those astonishing mosaics. It must have been a place of rare beauty much like this that, back in the 10th century, inspired the envoys of Prince Vladimir to bring your Orthodox faith to Kiev. (Applause.) For they said that, upon their first glimpse inside an Orthodox church in Constantinople: "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on Earth." Your All Holiness, you are today trying to bring the peace of heaven to this earthly life. Your global vision is one of hope -- hope for what we can do with and for your 250 million spiritual children -- (applause) -- so many of whom have lived in the chilled darkness of religious persecution. The world rejoices that the new freedoms of the past year mean that your Orthodox followers in so many lands are now once again able to follow freely and openly the road of holy light. (Applause.)

We celebrate the dawn of hope for these people, particularly those for whom you speak in Eastern Europe. We also celebrate the tremendous strength of spirit which has sustained them through these generations of repression. Spirit like that of the 50 million Russian Orthodox believers who still dream of the day when they can worship openly in their faith which is, after all, 930 years older than communism itself. (Applause.) We know -- we know with certainty that day will come because, as a persecutor of Orthodoxy admitted: "Religion is like a nail. The harder you hit it, the deeper it goes into the wood." But while the events of this past year have been a glorious beginning, there is still much to do. Because peace is more than just the absense of war.

As we continue the struggle for liberty for all, our way will be lit with the inner radiance of pastoral pilgrims of peace like Your All Holiness. (Applause.) I've often spoke of hope as "a thousand points of light ablaze in the black sky," and so I was struck by this conference's theme: "Walk as children of light." I noticed how this first began in Ephesians: "For you were once

darkness but now you are light."

Eastern Europe was once in dark bondage and now begins to see by the pale glow of a new dawn. (Applause.) It's like your own Easter midnight service. As the priest calls, "Come and receive the light," he brings a candle, I'm told, from the altar into the unbroken blackness of the church. And then he passes the flame to each worshiper's own individual candle until the church is ablaze with flickering lights proudly shining together to defeat the dark. (Applause.)

Your All Holiness, you are that candle. Your faithful here and around the world are that congregation which takes the light of your vision and spreads it through all lands. I was touched to hear that, during this trip, you will be walking across the "Peace Bridge" that links our great country, the United States, and Canada. And really, if you think about it, what a wonderful symbol of what all individuals and nations must do -- build peace bridges that link, not separate, nations. And then walk upon those bridges to meet others halfway in order to celebrate our similarities, not to battle our differences.

Together, we ask your prayers, Your All Holiness, that God will guide us in our efforts for peace and that the wide arms of faith and forgiveness will one day soon embrace a world with justice and compassion for all.

God bless you, Your All Holiness, and God bless every one of you gathered here tonight. Barbara and I were honored to be your guests. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

7:56 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 7:10 P.M. CDT
8:10 P.M. EDT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1990

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE THANK YOU GALA

M.D. Anderson Library
Houston, Texas

July 11, 1990

Tonight's celebration tops off three days -- three historic days -- for the people of Houston, and for the people of the world. For decades, we've kept the faith of freedom burning, we've borne the banner of liberty. Now the people of Berlin, Budapest and of so many other parts of the world have lifted that liberty banner for themselves.

In Houston, the presidents and prime ministers who lead the largest industrialized democracies met to build a world beyond the Cold War. To uphold the Revolution of '89 -- to help liberated nations enter the 21st century as enduring democracies. To support free wills and free markets for all mankind.

So this hasn't just been a successful summit -- it has been a celebration. A celebration on behalf of all nations and, of all peoples, a celebration of their victory over barbed wire, concrete walls and the discredited despotism.

The tone of this summit was set by the people of Berlin last fall. The success of this summit is a tribute to my six colleagues from abroad. But, it is, also, a tribute to you -- those who made this summit work -- the people of Houston.

I know you've endured closed streets and bumper-to-bumper traffic, the nerve-wracking regularity of helicopters and constant security. I know how tough such a meeting can be on a town. But even more to the point, I want to thank you for all you have done to make this summit a success.

Houston has always been a clean city, but thanks to the people of Clean Houston, it sparkles. I wish I could thank each and every one of the more than 5,000 volunteers who pitched in during their spare time to make Houston a showcase for the world.

Just look at what you have done. Thousands of volunteers who scoured the streets and back alleys for litter, planting flowers in the parks and painting over graffiti. By June 23rd, 5,261 Houstonians put in 26,200 hours to remove 2,761,600 pounds of trash and debris. These volunteers are showing the world what Houston pride is all about.

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In closing, let me say that I know that Houston has had a rough ride in recent years. But as I travel around town, I see more and more signs of a city -- not just on the mend -- but a city on the rebound, a city on the go. Not just a city with a future, but a city of the future.

I just wanted to let you know how very proud this Houstonian is of his home town tonight.

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In the south, the arrest of a Greek Cypriot youth who crossed into northern Nicosia, defaced a public building, and was arrested and jailed by the Turkish Cypriot police led to a series of demonstrations by Greek Cypriot students along the U.N.-controlled buffer zone. These demonstrations and protests intensified as the intercommunal negotiations in New York ended in early March without a positive result. For some days the checkpoint near the Ledra Palace was closed, thus effectively blocking travel between the two communities on Cyprus. In addition, a handful of young Greek Cypriots managed to dart through the lines and commit small acts of vandalism, which led to further arrests and jailings by Turkish Cypriot authorities. Several of these Greek Cypriots remain in northern Cyprus jails.

While elections and heightened tensions were the order of the day in Cyprus, strong efforts continued by the United Nations Secretary General, supported by the United States and others, to find a way to restart direct intercommunal negotiations aimed at completing an outline for a Cyprus settlement. Toward this end, I discussed the Cyprus situation personally with Prime Minister Thatcher during our meeting in Bermuda in early April, and my Cyprus Coordinator, Ambassador Nelson Ledsky, held 4 hours of talks with President Vassiliou in New York in late April.

During this same time period the United Nations Secretary General met separately with the Turkish Foreign Minister and President Vassiliou of Cyprus. There were also extensive conversations about Cyprus during President Vassiliou's official visit to Canada on April 30-May 1.

Finally, on May 15, I nominated to the Senate Robert E. Lamb, a distinguished career Foreign Service Officer, as Ambassador to Cyprus.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Remarks to United States Attorneys
June 22, 1990

Thank you all, and welcome back to Washington, many of you. For those here, my thanks to you as well for the job you're doing. I want to thank Secretary Brady for being with us, Nick, and of course my valued counselor and friend, the Attorney General, Dick Thornburgh, who is doing an outstanding job for our country. And I'm grateful to him every single day that I'm President.

To the prosecutors and crimefighters, you know what—when I told the grandchild that's with me there in the White House now that I'd be spending some time with some of America's finest crimefighters, Noelle asked me if I'd be sure to bring back an autograph from Dick Tracy. *[Laughter]* We just saw that show in the White House.

But nevertheless, true villains are drawn from life, not from primary colors; and where financial fraud is concerned, it takes a discerning mind and a determined spirit to distinguish the incompetent from the fraudulent, the unlucky from the unlawful. And this nation is very fortunate to be able to look to you, the United States Attorneys of America, to make these tough calls. And we depend on you as you work with the FBI and other investigative and regulatory agencies to sift through piles upon piles of documents and understand that in the cold numbers of a ledger can be found the tragedy of an embezzled pension, the heartache of stolen savings.

White-collar crime is not as dramatic as violent crime, but white-collar crime still ruins lives, and it murders the fondest dreams of whole families. And it takes a snake, a coldblooded snake, to betray the trust and innocence of hard-working people. And so, if we have to look under rocks to find these white-collar criminals, then we will leave no stone unturned.

This administration, from our first days in office, has worked with Congress to crack down on white-collar criminals—to crack down on fat-cat financiers who launder the smell of blood out of drug money and white-collar crooks who cheat the elderly out of their life's hard work, and to bring to justice government contractors who steal by

the numbers. You already know of the 37 convictions from the Ill Wind probe of Federal defense contractors, and you already know of the 127 people rounded up in Operation Polar Caps crackdown on drug financiers.

And let me say I wanted you here today to also thank you because there are signs that we are starting at long last to make credible progress in the war on drugs. Dick and Nick Brady and I have just come from a meeting with Bill Bennett [Director of National Drug Control Policy]—a report on where we stand; and we're beginning to get the sense—and I think the country is beginning to get the sense—that we will, indeed, win this war on drugs.

You already know that among cases involving abuse of HUD [Department of Housing and Urban Development] contracts, the Department of Justice has already obtained 65 convictions this fiscal year, including 21 convictions in Oklahoma alone, while courts have ordered almost \$2½ million in restitution in that State, more than half of which will come from an executive who has a 5-year reservation in prison. And in all, the Government has won 10,000 financial fraud convictions since 1985. And just last year alone, the Department of Justice aggressively won almost 800 convictions in major financial institution fraud cases—cases involving more than \$100,000—

But the most critical financial fraud problem we've faced is the—Dick referred to it—the savings and loan crisis. Working closely with Congress, we succeeded in obtaining many critical regulatory reforms, but a great deal of wrongdoing had already taken place, had already occurred. And so, in the third week of my administration, I directed the Attorney General to give cases of S&L fraud the highest priority; and he did just exactly that. And when it comes to civil action, we have sought restitution to protect taxpayers through tens of thousands of civil suits leveled against S&L executives.

of civil suits leveled against S&L executives, owners, and borrowers. And when it comes to criminal action, we aim for a simple, un-

S&L convictions: \$100 million ordered in restitution—\$100 million; more than 400 years in prison terms meted out. And I know that because of you and your firm support there will be much, much more. I am grateful to each and every one of you that is fighting hard to bring these people to justice.

Consider all that is happening. An S&L chairman gets 30 years in the celebrated case in Dallas, Texas. An S&L CEO in Santa Rosa is sentenced to prison, and the courts ordered almost \$7 million in fines and restitution. In Illinois, top officers of an S&L go to prison and are ordered to pay \$17 million. Now, these cheats have cost us billions, and they will pay us back with their dollars, and they'll pay us back with years of their lives.

These prosecutions are the result of a determined effort, an effort which we are boosting with 202 FBI agents, 100 more FBI accounting technicians, and 118 more United States Attorneys. The Dallas Task Force has been particularly successful, obtaining 52 convictions. So successful, in fact, that Attorney General Thornburgh is expanding the task force concept to 27 cities.

Now, we could have been moving even faster, but very candidly, Congress did not act on my request for \$36.8 million in additional investigational and prosecutorial resources for 1989. And further, approval of my request that Dick talked about for \$50 million for the current fiscal year was de-

Under Secretary Brady's leadership, the IRS is aggressively pursuing individuals suspected of tax fraud in connection with failed savings and loan institutions, while the Resolution Trust Corporation is adding about 300 members to its investigative staff this year to become part of a new national investigative network. The FDIC [Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation] is pursuing more than 1,200 cases of fraud and negligence against thrift officials—attorneys, accountants—and has collected more than \$180 million in the last year.

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remove more than 150 senior thrift officers and directors, and issued 111 cease and desist orders to stop unsafe and unsound practices.

Throughout it all, our men and women in the Federal agencies are doing a great job, from the halls of Justice and Treasury to the passport clerk who recovered \$3 million in cash, jewelry, and gold by keeping a former savings and loan owner from skipping the country.

We're learning a lot from our successes, and so, I'm here today to back new legislative and administrative action. In further ways, we can crack down on white-collar crime. First, let me declare my support for a proposed amendment to the Omnibus Crime bill to enhance and enforce the civil and criminal penalties for fraud against financial institutions. This legislation, sponsored by leaders—Bob Dole, Republican leader, and Bob Michel, by Senators Heinz and Garn, as well as Congressmen Hiler and Wylie—will strengthen our investigative and prosecutorial tools in the service of justice, and it will provide added protection to the victims of crime.

We want to allow the use of court-approved wiretaps in investigating bank fraud. And we also want Congress to authorize Federal regulatory agencies to ask the courts to freeze the corporate and personal assets of defendants in civil cases involving financial institution fraud so that they will not leave the taxpayers high and dry. And we want to prevent rip-off artists from using bankruptcy as a strategy to avoid paying damages.

Now, these are some of the legislative steps that we can and must take, but we must also build on our recent successes by taking further administrative action. The Attorney General will establish within this great department, the Department of Justice, a new unit to direct and sharpen the Department's actions even further while helping to coordinate actions with other agencies.

Where new problems emerge in S&Ls we'll need to get involved fast, and that's why Attorney General Thornburgh and Secretary Brady have created a new approach: rapid response teams against fraud—teams of razor-sharp prosecutors and

auditors recruited from their Departments and other Agencies striking city by city, teams that will jump right into the paper chase, teams that will hit the trail while that trail is still hot. These teams will be deployed to help you. You're on the cutting edge, you U.S. Attorneys. And I am confident that they will work well with you.

I have already seen the men and women of these two Departments working together, sharing a tenacious spirit born of a thirst for justice. Of course, we will always quantify the importance of our work together in terms of billions of dollars lost, but perhaps it is more appropriate to remember why this mission is so important to so many people—a thought that will sustain you in the months to come as you sip that cold coffee long after everyone else has gone home. You'll be working late because you will not let those people be forgotten: savers whose hard work and honest trust must and will be protected, elderly people whose faith in the future must be preserved. It's your duty—I would say it is your sacred duty—to right these wrongs, to stand up for the vulnerable against the unscrupulous, the guileless against the conniving.

We will not rest until the cheats and the chiselers and the charlatans spend a large chunk of their lives behind the bars of a Federal prison. You do a difficult job in a spirit of professionalism. Sometimes you come under fire—partisan political fire. And I will do my level best to see that the facts are out there so that the American people can understand and appreciate, as I do, the job that you all are doing. I can thank you, only thank you, on behalf of all Americans for this dedication, this dedication that you bring to the people's work.

I want to thank all of you for coming here to Washington, and may God bless each and every one of you. Thank you for what you're doing. We want to support you 100 percent. Many, many thanks.

Note: The President spoke at 11:12 a.m. in the Great Hall at the Department of Justice. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas F. Brady.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Huntsville, Alabama)

For Immediate Release

June 20, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT FUNDRAISING LUNCH FOR GOVERNOR GUY HUNT

Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Alabama

12:22 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that warm welcome back to Huntsville. (Applause.) Thank you very much, all of you. These guys that did that extra applauding over here, you young guys, you can have my broccoli when they serve the lunch. (Laughter.)

I want to thank Governor Hunt and his family who I had a chance to meet with earlier -- especially Helen. I'm glad to see her looking so fit, working so hard on the campaign trail. I want to pay my respects to Mayor Folmar and Anita, other friends of long-standing -- he of Montgomery fame. And it's great to see so many others. John Grenier was there to greet me when I got off the plane, and we go back a long, long time. And, of course, another old, close personal friend that Barbara asked me to convey her love to, and I'm talking about Bill Cabiness, who's running such a great race for the United States Senate. We've got to have him elected. (Applause.)

And I'm pleased to see our chairman, Arthur Outlaw. And I'm told Jean Sullivan is here, though I didn't see her. And there is someone here today in addition that I really need in Washington, D.C.; someone who can help the fight against the battle -- fight to win the battle against drugs; someone that is committed to expanding and protecting our space program; and someone who stands for a strong national defense. And I'm talking about your next congressman from this district, Albert McDonald. We've got to see him elected. (Applause.) We need that 5th District seat.

It's great to be back, back in what the song calls "sweet home Alabama." In fact, I've recently been down this way -- several months now -- first, recently to Birmingham and, prior to that, doing a little bass fishing in Pintlala. Considering my record as a fisherman, the bass have nothing to worry about, nothing at all. (Laughter.) But I loved every minute of it and I want to be invited back. And we had a reception over here -- and I will spare her the embarrassment -- but a beautiful Alabamian said to me -- how she got this past the Secret Service, I don't know. What she meant was, you're a lousy fisherman and I think I can help. And she reached into her pocket and pulled out a rubber, kind of a pink looking frog, or something of that nature -- a worm exactly. And I thanked her very, very much, because when we get out of Washington, we talk about the things that really matter. (Laughter.)

This time I've come to Alabama, though, with a more serious purpose in mind. This state is so special and so unique. So who can say what best captures the spirit of Alabama? Is it the voices of the choir in Montgomery's Dexter Baptist Church, or the ornate balconies and French windows of Mobile? Or is it the hustle of that dynamic Birmingham business, or the quiet intensity of this fantastic Space Center? This much we can say: Alabama is diverse -- and Alabama needs a governor who understands what it means to serve all of the people.

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And that's exactly the kind of governor you've got. And come November, that's the man that Alabama must and will reelect -- and, of course, I'm talking to Guy Hunt, your friend and mine. (Applause.)

I'm told that a New York Daily News reporter was recently touring the state with Guy, and he literally was astonished by what he saw. The reporter spoke with admiration of how your Governor strives to bring in new businesses and tourists, and how he inspires this whole state to come together, to pull together. This New Yorker saw for himself what Alabamians have seen for almost four years now: leadership works.

And Guy Hunt is a leader who switches from one area of expertise to another with all the grace of Bo Jackson out there, going from baseball to football. (Applause.) Look at how he created -- helped create the most new jobs in Alabama history. Just look at the way in which he established a first-of-its-kind program to transfer NASA technology to apparel manufacturers, small businesses and universities all across this state.

But Guy believes, and I believe, that government has certain serious obligations. One, of course, is our national security. But there's another one, and I'm talking about the protection of the people. And so when it comes to this fight against crime, the country preacher from Holly Pond in Cullman County is as tough as Elliot Ness. And I think the people in Alabama understand that -- and we certainly understand it and appreciate it in Washington.

You see, we share a simple philosophy. We will not condone or coddle the drug criminals. (Applause.) And he agrees with me that if dealing drugs is dealing death, then let's give those major narcotics dealers what they deserve -- the ultimate penalty. (Applause.)

America needs the tougher laws, stiffer penalties and criminal justice system -- the reforms proposed in our Violent Crime Control Act. And that's why I am hopeful that the Senate leaders will work with me to pass the major parts of our Violent Crime Act, new laws that are fair, but also fast and final. Fair: assure that those who are guilty are held accountable for their actions. Fast: we need reforms to stop the repetitive appeals that are choking our courts. And finally, constitutionally sound provisions for the death penalty, particularly for those who are major dealers in narcotics or those who take the lives of a police officer. (Applause.)

And let me just say a quick word on another constitutional issue. And it's a debate going on right now, and I'm trying to do it in a nonpartisan way because this issue, in my view, should be above partisanship. But I do believe that our flag is a unique symbol -- (applause) -- and until the recent Supreme Court decision, I'm told that 48 states had spoken; 48 states had laws protecting the flag against desecration. And that meant that the people of the states were speaking. And I strongly believe we should use the amendatory procedures wisely provided by the framers to pass a carefully drawn, narrow amendment to make the burning of the American flag a crime. And I'm going to fight for it with everything I have. (Applause.)

Another area of concern that I share with the Governor is the fate of our environment. He and Bill Cabiness and I were talking about the natural wonders of this state on the way down here. The fate of our environment. From the estuaries of Mobile Bay to the lakes and misty mountains of the north, Alabama truly is beautiful. And it's beautiful in part because this Governor is working to preserve your very special quality of life. We're also working in Washington with the Congress to bring about a cleaner environment for all America.

In fact, that is why I have proposed the first major revisions in the Clean Air Act in more than a decade. We can have

clean air and clean water, while respecting another kind of delicate ecology -- that of jobs and opportunity.

A cleaner environment, safer streets, more jobs -- all these are absolutely critical to our future. But if there is a paramount issue -- and we have to click them all off there and try to to -- if we had to put them in a list, you can't overlook education because the state of the classroom today really is the state of our Union tomorrow.

We believe in asking more of our teachers, our children and ourselves. And that's why I was very grateful to have Governor Hunt at my side at the recent education summit in Charlottesville, Virginia. The first time such a summit had ever been convened. And at the summit, we agreed to develop America's first national education goals. Not to inflict our views onto the state education system, but to set broad national goals. And we agreed to ensure our kids -- that they master important areas, subject areas, math and science being part of it -- to boost graduation rates, to make this nation a nation of literate adults, to kick drugs out of our schools and to see that all children start school ready to learn through vigorous programs like Head Start. And then we agreed to one thing more -- to ensure that our students by the year 2000 are first in math and science achievement. America should not accept second-place to any nation when it comes to education and the quality of the education for our kids. (Applause.)

When it comes to making a difference in the world, America has always been first. And we've already seen the difference America is helping to make in what I call this magnificent Revolution of 1989 -- a struggle of the democracy-building that continues to this day.

Let me share a story -- about an American visitor on a recent trip to Romania, a troubled land that it is -- who asked the people she met what was most important now, what they needed most. And listen to one surprising answer: In a country where the streets are dark at night and the homes lack heat, one Romanian woman pulled from her purse a worn copy of an American magazine -- a three-year-old issue, with a special bicentennial copy of the United States Constitution. And she said, "What we need now is more of these."

And this is the moral example that our great country owes the world. Some may say the goals we set for ourselves and the example we offer the world are too ambitious. And I say only great ambitions can galvanize a nation; only great examples can change the world. When the first rockets lifted off the pad at Cape Canaveral -- rockets built at Redstone -- the eyes of America were already on the moon. We need once again to work together as a people so that our future will be as bright as that Redstone rocket. And with the leadership of Guy Hunt, I know that your possibilities will be as limitless as the stars over Alabama.

Guy Hunt is the right governor to lead Alabama in the '90s. I believe he would agree with me that this is a fascinating time to be Governor of your great progressive, forward-moving state. And I might say parenthetically as I look back over my shoulder at the recent history of this country, I can't think of a more fascinating time to be President of the United States of America than today. (Applause.)

I am very grateful for the support that you're showing for Guy Hunt. I'm very grateful for the fact that many people in this room made it possible for me -- and I might say for the Silver Fox, Barbara -- to be at my side as we undertake the duties of the presidency.

Thank you for your support in the past, and now -- not that you haven't paid for this hamburger -- but go out and work extra hard for Guy Hunt. Alabama needs him and I need him. Thank you all. And God bless you and God bless our wonderful country. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 22, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
DURING ADDRESS TO UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

The Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

11:12 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all and welcome back to Washington, many of you. For those here, my thanks to you as well for the job you're doing. I want to thank Secretary Brady for being with us, Nick; and of course, my valued counselor and friend, the Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, who is doing an outstanding job for our country. And I'm grateful to him every single day that I'm President. (Applause.)

To the prosecutors and crime fighters, you know what -- when I told the grandchild that's with me there in the White House now that I'd be spending some time with some of America's finest crime fighters, Noelle asked me if I'd be sure to bring back an autograph from Dick Tracy. (Laughter.) We just saw that show in the White House.

But nevertheless, true villains are drawn from life not from primary colors. And where financial fraud is concerned it takes a discerning mind and a determined spirit to distinguish the incompetent from the fraudulent, the unlucky from the unlawful. And this nation is very fortunate to be able to look to you, the United States Attorneys of America, to make these tough calls. And we depend on you as you work with the FBI and other investigative and regulatory agencies to sift through piles upon piles of documents and understand that in the cold numbers of a ledger can be found the tragedy of an embezzled pension, the heartache of stolen savings.

White-collar crime is not as dramatic as violent crime, but white-collar crime still ruins lives, and it murders the fondest dreams of whole families. And it takes a snake, a cold-blooded snake to betray the trust and innocence of hard-working people. And so if we have to look under rocks to find these white-collar criminals then we will leave no stone unturned.

This administration, from our first days in office, has worked with Congress to crack down on white-collar criminals, to crack down on fat cat financiers who launder the smell of blood out of drug money, and white-collar crooks who cheat the elderly out of their life's hard work, and to bring to justice government contractors who steal by the numbers. You already know of the 37 convictions from the ill-wind probe of federal defense contractors. And you already know of the 127 people rounded up in Operation Polar Caps crackdown on drug financiers.

And let me say I wanted you here today to also thank you because there are signs that we are starting at long last to make credible progress in the war on drugs. Dick and Nick Brady and I have just come from a meeting with Bill Bennett -- a report on where we stand. And we're beginning to get the sense -- and I think the country is beginning to get the sense -- that we will, indeed, win this war on drugs.

You know -- you already know -- that among cases

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involving abuse of HUD contracts, the Department Justice has already obtained 65 convictions this fiscal year, including 21 convictions in Oklahoma alone. While courts have ordered almost \$2.5 million in restitution in that state, more than half of which will come from an executive who has a five-year reservation in prison. And in all, the government has won 10,000 financial fraud convictions since 1985. And just last year alone, the Department of Justice aggressively won almost 800 convictions in major financial institution fraud cases. Cases involving more than \$100,000 each.

But the most critical financial fraud problem we've faced is the -- Dick referred to it -- the S&L, the savings and loan crisis. Working closely with Congress, we succeeded in obtaining many critical regulatory reforms. But a great deal of wrongdoing had already taken place, had already occurred. And so, in the third week of my administration, I directed the Attorney General to give cases of S&L fraud the highest priority. And he did just exactly that. And when it comes to civil action, we have sought restitution to protect taxpayers through tens of thousands of civil suits leveled against S&L executives, owners and borrowers. And when it comes to criminal action, we aim for a simple, uncompromising position. Throw the crooks in jail.

And this aggressive attitude is paying off. And in three years, we've won more than 150 S&L convictions -- \$100 million ordered in restitution -- \$100 million. More than 400 years in prison terms meted out. And I know this because of you and your firm support, there will be much, much more. I am grateful to each and every one of you that is fighting hard to bring these people to justice.

Consider all that is happening. An S&L chairman gets 30 years in the celebrated case in Dallas, Texas. An S&L CEO in Santa Rosa is sentenced to prison, and the courts order almost \$7 million in fines and restitution. In Illinois, top officers of an S&L go to prison and are ordered to pay \$17 million. Now, these cheats have cost us billions. And they will pay us back with their dollars and they'll pay us back with years of their lives.

These prosecutions are the result of a determined effort. An effort which we are boosting with 202 FBI agents, 100 more FBI accounting technicians, and 118 more United States attorneys. The Dallas Task Force has been particularly successful, obtaining 52 convictions. So successful, in fact, that Attorney General Thornburgh is expanding the task force concept to 27 cities.

Now, we could have been moving even faster, but, very candidly, Congress did not act on my request for \$36.8 million in additional investigatorial and prosecutorial resources for 1989. And further, approval of my request that Dick talked about for \$50 million for the current fiscal year was delayed.

Under Secretary Brady's leadership, the IRS is aggressively pursuing individuals suspected of tax fraud in connection with failed savings and loan institutions. While the Resolution Trust Corporation is adding about 300 members to its investigative staff this year to become part of a new national investigative network. The FDIC is pursuing more than 1,200 cases of fraud and negligence against thrift officials -- attorneys, accountants -- and has collected more \$120 million in damages this year.

Treasury's Office of Thrift Supervision, the OTS, has also required 664 institutions to agree to terminate unsafe and unsound practices, remove more than 150 senior thrift officers and directors, and issued 111 cease and desist orders to stop unsafe and unsound practices.

Throughout it all, our men and women in the federal agencies are doing a great job. From the halls of Justice and Treasury to the passport clerk who recovered \$3 million in cash, jewelry and gold by keeping a former savings and loan owner from

skipping the count.

We're learning a lot from our successes. And so I'm here today to back new legislative and administrative action. In further ways, we can crack down on white collar crime. First, let me declare my support for a proposed amendment to the Omnibus Crime bill to enhance and enforce the civil and criminal penalties for fraud against financial institutions. This legislation, sponsored by leaders -- Bob Dole, Republican leader, and Bob Michel; by Senators Heinz and Garn, as well as Congressman Hiler and Wylie will strengthen our investigative and prosecutorial tools in the service of justice. And it will provide added protection to the victims of crime.

We want to allow the use of court-approved wiretaps in investigating bank fraud. And we also want Congress to authorize federal regulatory agencies to ask the courts to freeze the corporate and personal assets of defendants in civil cases involving financial institution fraud so that they will not leave the taxpayers high and dry. And we want to prevent rip-off artists from using bankruptcy as a strategy to avoid paying damages.

Now, these are some of the legislative steps that we can and must take, but we must also build on our recent successes by taking further administrative action. The Attorney General will establish within this great department, the Department of Justice, a new unit to direct and sharpen the department's actions even further while helping to coordinate actions with other agencies.

Where new problems emerge in S&Ls we'll need to get involved fast. And that's why Attorney General Thornburgh and Secretary Brady have created a new approach -- rapid response teams against fraud. Teams of razor-sharp prosecutors and auditors recruited from their departments and other agencies striking city by city. Teams that will jump right into the paper chase. Teams that will hit the trail while that trail is still hot. These teams will be deployed to help you. You're on the cutting edge, you U.S. attorneys. And I am confident that they will work well with you.

I have already seen the men and women of these two departments working together -- sharing a tenacious spirit, born of a thirst for justice. Of course, we will always quantify the importance of our work together in terms of billions of dollars lost. But perhaps it is more appropriate to remember why this mission is so important to so many people -- a thought that will sustain you in the months to come as you sip that cold coffee long after everyone else has gone home. You'll be working late because you will not let those people be forgotten: Savers whose hard work and honest trust must and will be protected. Elderly people whose faith in the future must be preserved. It's your duty. I would say it is your sacred duty to right these wrongs. To stand up for the vulnerable against the unscrupulous, the guileless against the conniving.

We will not rest until the cheats and the chiselers and the charlatans spend a large chunk of their lives behind the bars of a federal prison. You do a difficult job in a spirit of professionalism. Sometimes you come under fire, partisan political fire. And I will do my level best to see that the facts are out there so that the American people can understand and appreciate, as I do, the job that you all are doing. I can thank you, only thank you, on behalf of all Americans for this dedication, this dedication that you bring to the people's work.

I want to thank all of you for coming here to Washington. And may God bless each and every one of you. Thank you for what you're doing. We want to support you 100 percent. Many, many thanks. (Applause.)

END

11:26 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Sydney, Australia)

For Immediate Release

January 1, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

The National Maritime Museum
Sydney, Australia

12:25 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. Well, it is a pleasure for Barbara and me to be here, and I will speak to her afterward about her frankness here. (Laughter.) I'm sure I can work it out. We've been married 47 years, and I haven't been able to work it out yet, but I will try. (Laughter.)

Now, Prime Minister, to you and Annita thank you for your hospitality. To the Premier, Nick Greiner and Kathryn, thank you for yours, sir. To Minister Fatin, the Minister for Arts and Tourism in the Territories, we are grateful to you for your leadership in this field. I want to salute our own Ambassador, Mel Sembler, who came up from Canberra here and Betty, who are with us.

Thank Chairman Peter Doyle for his comments. I have to tell you though you can tell he's an avid sportsman and he loves fishing. And inside he said to me, "the only time I see pictures of you, you are fishing. You must love fishing." Please don't repeat that for the people back in the United States -- I think sometimes they think the only thing I like to do is go fishing. (Laughter.) But nevertheless, I'm sorry we missed the opportunity on this particular trip. But I love it.

And may I salute Dr. Fewster, the director who is going to, I understand, show us around. Say to your Ambassador to the United States how proud we are that he is with us, Ambassador Michael Cook and his wife, Catriona. They have many, many friends in the United States. And they are doing a first-class job for your country in the United States. And then, of course, I want to salute Dr. Hewson and his wife Carolyn, who came up to be with us today, too.

I am really thrilled to take part in this dedication, a gift from the people of the United States to the people of Australia -- the USA Gallery of the Australian National Maritime Museum. President Reagan announced the gift in 1988, in honor of Australia's bicentennial. And now as we dedicate the new gallery we mark another bicentennial -- the Prime Minister referred to it -- and that is the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the first foreign trading ship in Sydney -- an American vessel named for the city of brotherly love in our country, Philadelphia.

Never was a ship more aptly named. Brotherhood has linked the Australian and American people now for two centuries. And if anybody at home, if anyone in the states doubt it, I just wish they could have been with me and with Barbara when we came in from the airport or when we rode across to the bridge over here or wherever we have gone in this short period of time. You can just feel it. And I hope that they can feel that it is reciprocated because it certainly is. Our common ancestors endowed us with language and culture, the rule of law, a spirit of enterprise and a passion for freedom that we still share today.

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Australians and Americans have been together for many a maritime adventure -- in peace and, yes, in war; in commerce and in sporting competition. And visitors to this gallery may see historical displays of the three Americans who were among the crew of Captain Cook's Endeavor on its voyage to Australia in 1770. Visitors will get a unique glimpse into life aboard a 19th century trading ship. Other displays commemorate the common courage Australian and American naval forces showed half a century ago in the fateful battles of World War Two.

Fraternal ties of culture and commerce between our two nations literally have never, ever been stronger. And I am proud that the United States and Australia are committed to open and robust world trade, trade that creates jobs and lifts the standards of living in both our countries.

And in this spirit, and in this anniversary year, I am very honored to have been asked to take part in opening the USA Gallery of Australia's National Maritime Museum. Thank you. May God bless you all and may you have a wonderful new year. Thank you very, very much.

END

12:30 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 10, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO THE SURGEON GENERAL'S CONFERENCE
ON "HEALTHY CHILDREN READY TO LEARN"

Ramada Renaissance Hotel
Washington, D.C.

2:07 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And might I just say at the beginning of these brief remarks that I am very proud of Lou Sullivan and what he's doing as Secretary of HHS. He's doing a superb job and we all are grateful to him. (Applause.) And when Dr. Novello and Lou suggested I could be here, let me just say it's a pleasure to be here today to help launch this historic conference.

I particularly want to thank our Surgeon General, Antonia Novello. (Applause.) I see she brought most of her family with her. (Laughter.) No, but let me just say this, as an observer with a pretty good observation post: She's inspired people all across the country with her example and her message. And she sums it up this way -- she sums up the message better than anyone: "All children have a right to be healthy." Then she says: "We need to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves."

And that's why you've gathered here this week, and you've come to lead a great movement of parents and doctors and teachers and public programs and private enterprise -- a movement destined to transform America. And here's our goal -- what's that guy got going? (Laughter.) I think it's wonderful these kids are here, I really do. (Laughter and applause.) Makes me feel right at home. (Applause.) Here's are goal -- our goal: By the year 2000, every American child will start school healthy and ready to learn. (Applause.)

Our success will provide a lifetime of opportunity for our children. And it will guarantee the health and safety of our families and neighborhoods, and it will ensure that America remains the undisputed leader of the world.

Now, I am proud that our administration is part of this movement. In this administration, families come first. (Applause.) We're proud to join hands with people like Trish Solomon Thomas, who's come from New Mexico to be here this afternoon. (Applause.)

A little history. She has two children -- both of them with special health needs. And she perfectly expressed the spirit of our movement when she said, "I used to be shy, but I had to learn to stand up for my kids." And that's why we're here: to stand up for our kids. And we will not let them down. (Applause.)

Our movement draws its strength from Trish and the millions of parents like her. The title of this conference says it all: "Healthy Children Ready To Learn: The Critical Role Of Parents." Now, parents are a child's "first teachers," offering the love and spiritual nourishment that no government program can ever hope to provide.

And if I can brag for just a minute here today -- you may know of Barbara's work promoting literacy. And I'm very proud of

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her. She wants to help parents understand just how important it is to read to their kids. And when parents read aloud to their young ones, they open their children to the joy of a larger world; they teach the self-assurance and curiosity that comes from learning. Barbara asked me to extend her best wishes. She's now on a learning program, an education program right this minute, in the state of Mississippi. (Applause.) Don't know whether you're clapping because she's there or because she's interested in education, but nevertheless -- (Laughter.)

Q Mississippi.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, a little Mississippi delegation here. (Applause.)

But anyway, our movement instills the habits of good health -- wholesome nutrition, sound hygiene, and protective measures like early immunization. Parents know: Learning and health are two sides, really, of the same coin.

And again, parents, families, communities are the key. But government can help, must help. Last June, for example, Dr. Sullivan and I, with able advice from Dr. Novello, took steps to ensure that no American child is at risk from deadly diseases like polio, diphtheria and measles. And we launched an initiative to support childhood immunizations -- especially immunizations for kids in the early years of life.

Now, that's a crucial step toward meeting our goal. And I'm proud we've been able to help. Since 1988, we've more than tripled the dollars for federal immunization efforts -- from \$98 million to \$297 million for 1992.

On Friday, Dr. Sullivan and the Surgeon General and I -- we were just talking about it outside -- were out in San Diego, and we had the privilege of visiting Logan Heights Family Health Center to see firsthand the benefits of this initiative. We spoke with parents and community leaders, and every one of them stressed the importance of early immunization in preventing illness.

Logan Heights, one of many, I'm sure, but it's a perfect example of what can be done if concerned individuals set their minds to it. The Center was founded by a wonderful woman named Laura Rodriguez, who's become one of our administration's what we call Points of Light -- helping others, setting an example in the process. Laura saw a need; and with hard work and dedication, she rolled up here sleeves and did something about it. Logan Heights now serves 75,000 patients a year. So I say thank God for people like Laura. She's an example for all of us. And there are many, many other examples right here in this room.

And for those kids who need a head start in preparing for school, we've made sure that they'll get it. In the last three years, we have almost doubled the funding for Head Start programs, and this year I have proposed the largest single increase in Head Start's history: \$600 million. (Applause.) This year's increase will ensure that 157,000 more kids will be able to start school ready to learn.

Head Start brings children and parents into the classroom, into the learning process. Head Starts work because parents take the lead. You may not know this, but volunteers in Head Start outnumber paid staff by eight-to-one. Head Start works -- (applause) -- Head Start works because people care. And we're making sure it continues to work. If it's good for America's kids, it's good for America.

These are important steps. But there's more to do. And we must address the larger issues of American health care. And last

week, I proposed a four-point plan to do just that. Every American family must have access to affordable, high-quality care.

I don't need to tell you that the American health care system has problems. The crisis has probably touched many of you right here in this room. Right now, more than eight million children go without health insurance because skyrocketing costs have placed coverage beyond the reach of their parents. And even parents who are covered worry about losing their family's insurance if they move on to a different job -- or, worse still, lose the job they have. You shouldn't have to live with this kind of uncertainty. No American family should. And my proposal will put an end to that. (Applause.)

And yet, I think we should keep one thing in mind. It's important to remember -- for all its problems the system, our health care system still provides the best health care in the world. And that's why people from all over the world come here seeking better care. Most often they're trying to escape health care systems in which the government dictates how much care you'll get and what kind you'll get and when you'll get it. In America, that's unacceptable.

Our great challenge, then, is to keep what works in our system and then reform what doesn't work. We must maintain a maximum freedom of choice and the highest quality care. And at the same time, we must make sure that our children have access to health care their parents can afford, sick or healthy, rich or poor.

That's what this four-point plan does; and let me just briefly spell it out for you. First, to make health care more affordable and accessible, I want a \$3,750 tax credit for low-income families to help them buy health insurance; for middle-income families, I've proposed a tax deduction for the same amount. Poor people, those who don't file taxes, would be covered under this plan.

Second, to cut costs, we will make health care more efficient. The math is simple: the larger the group being covered, the lower the cost per individual. So what we've done is this: We've proposed health insurance networks that bring companies together to cut administrative costs and make insurance affordable for working parents.

And third, we must cut out the waste and abuse. We can start with medical malpractice lawsuits that drive up the cost of care for everyone. A doctor pestered with frivolous litigation ends up passing his legal costs right along to you, the American people and right along to the patient. And when you go to the doctor, I don't want you to have to pay a lawyer, too. Just pay the doctor. (Applause.)

And finally, we must slow the spiraling costs of federal health programs. These costs are rising far beyond the rate of inflation, which only endangers important benefits while making less money available for other pressing needs.

There it is. A common-sense reform that will maintain high-quality care, cut costs, ensure maximum freedom of choice and give every family, rich or poor, sick or healthy, access to health care. I know how important this is, particularly for parents who have children with special needs. And my plan will assure that you can change jobs without endangering the health insurance your child depends on. We're building on our system's strengths. And we're avoiding the pitfalls of nationalized care, the kind that people from all over the world come to America to escape.

All these approaches for meeting our goal of Healthy Children Ready To Learn must build on a basic truth: in this country families come first. Government programs that overtake the rightful role of families and communities, that deny them the freedom of choice or bind them up in red tape, are simply unacceptable. (Applause.) Our movement is about strengthening families.

And over the next few days I'm told you will continue a great national dialogue, share information, explore new ideas and then return to your communities to lead the good fight. Your commitment is an inspiration, and I thank you for inviting me by to get a feeling of it firsthand.

And may God bless all of you. And now this little guy -- I've got to tell you, those in the back -- when I walked in and was sitting here looking very serious waiting for the doctor to introduce me, this guy in the blue, he goes like this to me. (Laughter.) And I had to tell him, no, I have to stay up here. You know, I tried to communicate with him, but now I'm going to invite him to come up here and say hello to me.

But thank you all and may God bless America.
(Applause.) Thank you very, very much.

END

2:21 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 5, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO SMALL BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

J.W. Marriott Hotel
Washington, D.C.

10:38 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. And, Phil, thank you for the welcome, the kind introduction. Bob Banister, congratulations on being named Chairman-elect of the SBLC. John Satige, thanks for your hard work in putting this wonderfully successful meeting together. And greetings, also, to Ted Olsen and John Kemp, who has done wonderful work in helping small business implement the ADA, the Americans With Disabilities Act. It was great a minute ago -- I don't see him this second -- to see my friend, Josh Smith, the Chairman, sitting over here, of the President's Council on Minority Business -- a successful businessman himself.

Today, what I wanted to do is to follow up on some of the things that I discussed in the State of the Union address. I really do enjoy going up to the Hill to deliver the State of the Union. It's the only time all year that you can get so many politicians so polite and understanding for so long. (Laughter.) It's a wonderful feeling. (Applause.)

As you know, we've had a hectic week -- from the State of the Union address to releasing the budget to meeting with Boris Yeltsin. During this presidency, I think it's fair to point out that the Cold War has drawn to an end. We led the coalition that shoved Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Peace talks between ancient enemies have begun in the Middle East. The Soviet Union has collapsed and we've begun working with its successor states. The whole world has changed. And still, some people say: "Hey, is that all? What have you done for us lately?" (Laughter and applause.) I'd say, no, but it's a good start, and we recognize that we've got many other things to be working on, as I've been trying to do.

And now that we can look past the burdens of the Cold War, we can do what we do best -- create, innovate, build, produce and lead. This afternoon, I'm going to be signing the Economic Report to the President. And it will not only describe and explain the causes of our current economic difficulties, it will also explain why virtually all economic analysts expect this economy to improve. More importantly, it will explain why if Congress enacts my progrowth policies, the improvement in the economy will be quicker, stronger and much more certain.

In the State of the Union I presented a comprehensive action plan for our economy. Today I want to discuss what that means for you. Think of this as my "small business state of the union." My plans starts with what I can do as President without any congressional action required. We've taken a whole series of actions -- I won't mention them all -- but a series of actions to stimulate investment and get the economy moving.

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These, as I say, don't need congressional approval. A couple of initiatives have earned kudos from this crowd. First, I have ordered major departments and agencies to put a 90-day hold on implementing new regulations. (Applause.) Regulations ought to foster economic growth, not crush it. And we're going to make sure that the days of overregulation are over once and for all.

So we're going to take a fresh look at the rules and regulations Washington hurls your way. We'll get rid of those that do nothing more than destroy jobs and weigh down businesses. (Applause.) And in this, we will pick some that will speed up and foster growth and support jobs. We're going to emphasize those regulations.

But that's not all. We also declared war on nuisance lawsuits. (Applause.) Yesterday I announced the Access to Justice Act of 1992. That bill will give Americans less expensive and easier alternatives to trial. Let them solve problems out of court. And we've got to stop America's long liaison with the lawsuit. (Applause.) If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, this country would be a lot better off. (Applause.)

And that goes for health care, too. With those outrageous, sky-high malpractice awards, we've got to get those under control and we are going to try hard. And now the American people know better than to think that anyone, including a President, can wave a magic wand and revive something as complicated as our economy. Congress needs to do its job. And that means -- and we were talking with your leaders about this earlier -- that they should pass the short-term compact economic growth package that I put before the Congress and pass it by March 20th. (Applause.)

You know, we're all realistic that we're going into a political year. And I'm fairly realistic that we're going into a political year -- (laughter) -- but I would simply point out that we have time now, there's a period of time that we can lower that political controversy and get something done. A rifle-shot approach to stimulate this economy. And that's where I'm going to need your help. So here we go. The plan starts with the basics. It stimulates investment by improving the alternative minimum tax and creating a new 15-percent investment tax allowance.

L.W. Locke of North Carolina -- and I'm told he's in the audience today -- understands. He appreciates these changes. He's delayed building a convenience store/gasoline station because he just can't do it under our present system. The investment tax allowance would let him buy fixtures and gas pumps and fuel storage tanks, a \$1-million commitment. So don't tell me -- here's a practical example -- don't tell me, or don't listen to the voices that say this plan is a gimmick, and don't try to tell that to L.W., either, because he's right out there, trying to move forward with investment.

I also want to fire up the engine that traditionally pulls us out of tough times. And that's the real estate industry. My plan helps builders. Ask Jay Buchert, a Cincinnati homebuilder, also here with us today. He's thrown his support behind this plan. The National Association of Homebuilders predicts that my bill will create at least 415,000 construction industry jobs and set off \$20 billion in economic activity associated with homebuilding. Now, that's no gimmick. (Applause.) That is no gimmick, that means jobs -- good, solid American jobs. And I also want to reward everyone who believes in the American Dream, trying to make it work.

I want Congress to cut the long-term tax on capital gains. (Applause.) And I want it cut to a maximum rate of 15.4 percent. The world's fastest growing economies and our major competitors, including Germany and Japan, have one thing in common,

they tax capital gains at much lower rates than we do. And in many cases, capital gains isn't taxed at all. (Applause.)

It's ironic. Many politicians who oppose the capital gains tax cut also complain that we're not competitive. Well, they can't have it both ways. And if they really want us to be competitive then they'll slash the capital gains rate and do it now in this comprehensive short-term package. (Applause.) The capital gains rate cut will help families who own homes, help people who own farms, help business owners, and will help everyone who invests in our future by purchasing stock.

Now, you've heard some people claim that a capital gains cut serves only the rich. Well, maybe those people should get out of Washington and talk to people around our country. (Applause.) Retirees say they can't sell their homes because capital gains rates punish them too much. Business owners say they can't expand their businesses -- capital gains rates punish their success. A man from Florida, a retiree who built his own business, invested, saved, put it perfectly: He worked hard for years and now he can't afford to cash in on his success. He said we are being penalized for having foresight. Well, I'm tired of people getting slammed because they risk their money and effort and succeeded. (Applause.) And it's about time the Congress realizes we should reward these people, not turn them into targets of envy. And that, of course, creates jobs. More people that take risks and start businesses, that means jobs.

So let's get to the heart of this thing. The people in this room, small businessmen, investors from the National Venture Capital Association, you understand the gritty fundamentals of business. And you are the real experts. Well, America really needs your help now. So don't accept no for an answer anymore. I'll take the heat on whether it's a tax cut for the rich or not, but you make the case as to what it can do to stimulate jobs and new businesses in this country and demand that the Congress cut the capital gains rate now. (Applause.)

And I might remind you when you do this work, remember that there were majorities in both Houses of Congress for what I'm proposing right now not so many months ago. The field is there for fertile reaping. And I tell you -- I really hope that you can get up and help us do this job. I'd also like to ask you that you demand action on my short-term plan without delay.

You know, when I hear someone complain that this short-term plan won't do much, I wonder myself: Hadn't any of these guys ever run a business? Do they appreciate the difficulties of getting a loan, finding an investor, purchasing what you need, filling out all that government paperwork? It's about time somebody understands that you need just a few minutes to concentrate on the customer. That's what some of this is going to do. (Applause.)

You may have detected this, but I'm tired of the term "fairness" being corrupted by political demagogues. You want fairness? Here's something fair: My plan will work for all Americans and it will create jobs. How's that for fairness? (Applause.)

Congress has the legislation. It has a March deadline -- March 20th deadline. And I ask you to circle the date on the calendar. Much beyond that, politics takes over. We've got a chance now to get something done. So while you're in Washington, visit those congressional delegations. Let them know that you want this package passed. You are at the center of this plan, and you create -- small business -- you create the vast majority of jobs in this country. And I am determined to support you to create more jobs. (Applause.)

I believe it is in your power to help lift this country and help get it moving again. I really am confident that you will do just that. Since members of Congress will be home on break next week, drop by their offices, let them know how you feel. Send this message: No more delays, no excuses, no substitutes. And don't delay. Decision day is six weeks from Friday. (Applause.) That is the rifle shot -- I didn't mention all the ingredients, but that's the rifle shot, short-term, incentive-building, job-creating part of this package. Now, for the longer term I've also proposed an ambitious long-term agenda to ensure that our economy will continue leading the world for decades to come.

And let me discuss a critical issue in that plan: health care. I know health care has become a problem for many of you and your employees. And tomorrow I'm going to be announcing in detail my comprehensive health care plan. And I know you'll like it. I believe you'll like it a lot. People today worry about health care, yes. It costs too much -- great concern. It's tough to find good comprehensive coverage. And you can't make choices like you used to. And you can't count on coverage if you move and change jobs or fall victim to a debilitating condition or disease.

I believe our plan solves these problems. And my plan ensures that people can find health care, choose health care, afford health care and keep health care. (Applause.) I know that everyone with a plan promises the same thing, and that's why you have to use your common sense in evaluating the various proposals. And when you get right down to it, there are two fundamental health care choices. We can adopt a system that's been a proven failure all over the world -- nationalized health care. Or we can reform our present system, which has its faults certainly, but which also provides the highest quality care on Earth. People come from all over the world to participate in our health care. (Applause.)

And if you want the freedom to choose your own doctor, to hold the line on costs, and to improve access to health insurance coverage, push for my plan. Look it over carefully, we're going to need your support. And it gives everyone -- and I emphasize everyone -- access to the world's best health care. And it doesn't exclude anybody. So take a look at this and support us if you can.

And finally, I'd like your help on one other item. The federal government is too big and it spends too much. (Applause.) And it's just that simple. Now, my budget holds the line on new spending. It does not violate the only protection the taxpayer has -- that's the spending caps that are now in the law. These caps are the only protection the taxpayer has against more spending by Congress. And it pulls the trap door on a host of federally-funded programs, all with noble titles -- 246 programs, to be exact -- that we simply do not need. And you shouldn't have to pay for them. (Applause.)

And it's that simple. Each one has a protector, but I think the time has come and the times demand that we take action on these.

And also, get Congress to give me an important weapon to control spending. This one may be a little difficult, but get them to give me that line-item veto and give me a shot at it. (Applause.) Forty-three governors have it; give the President a shot. (Laughter.)

We must stop imposing mandates on others without paying for those mandates. Too often mandates, these mandated benefits dictated out of some subcommittee mean mandated deficits. And that just isn't right. It's not fair to the states, it's not fair to the localities and the communities. And it's got to stop. (Applause.)

The bottom line is we've got a lot of work to do. And we can't let anyone stall us this time. Americans can't wait to get this economy moving. We want to throw off cynicism and fear. We want to shake away the gloom and the doubt. And I am, frankly, very tired of the professional pessimists who don't have any fresh ideas for the future and who literally feast on bad times and hard feelings, and who talk as if our best days have passed by. They just don't understand. (Applause.)

Wouldn't you hate to go through life thinking the only way I can get a step up the ladder is if somebody else is hurting? They just ought to get out of the way, these gloom-sayers and these pessimists. We can start a new economic revolution in America -- one that builds on our innate optimism, our ambition, our determination, our willing to take risks, and our pride. And we're going to do just that. And that revolution will start a lot sooner if 535 people in Washington meet by the March 20th deadline that I've proposed up there.

So let them know in no uncertain terms: business as usual won't get this job done. Election-year politics as usual won't do. And tell them, we need action by March 20th. And with your help, I believe we can get it.

Thank you all very, very much. And may God bless the United States. (Applause.)

END

11:00 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

January 30, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

12:11 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT Thank you all very, very much for that welcome back. (Applause.) Please be seated, and thank you. Please be seated. I don't want to keep Boris Yeltsin waiting later on. (Laughter.)

Thank you, Joe. Senator Specter and Joan, laboring in the vineyards of the City Council here, we're delighted to be with you. And coming up with us from Washington were two of our great congressmen from this area, Larry Coughlin and Kurt Weldon over here.

And may I, too, salute the Mayor. I asked Joe earlier on how was it going, realizing that, as in Washington, things have been tough. But I think -- and across the country in many ways. But I said, knowing a little bit about history in Philadelphia, I asked this question, how's the Mayor doing. And Joe and everybody else I've spoken to has said he's really hit the ground in a wonderful way, going forward, bringing out the best in this city. So I want to salute Ed Rendell and his wife, Midge. (Applause.)

Joe Paquette, who introduced me, is the Chairman of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber. That was a very enthusiastic presentation he made about how things were going -- so much so that maybe he can make a little loan to those of us in Washington, D.C., who cannot have quite that optimistic a report. (Laughter.) But I like that can-do spirit of this Chamber, and I'm grateful to Charlie -- to Charlie Pizzi, and to Joe and all the rest of you that have put together this opportunity for me -- all of you at the Chamber.

And so, thank you very much. I am happy to be here in Philadelphia. As you can imagine, these last few weeks in Washington have been pretty high pressure -- high pressure time for me -- what with all the experts and the instant analysis and the columnists giving unsolicited advice. Thank goodness the Super Bowl is over. (Laughter.)

I am very pleased to be here, particularly pleased to be here today, because American businesses -- as represented by this group gathered here -- have a unique perspective on the tough times we've been going through recently. As businessmen and businesswomen, you can separate the sensational from the sensible, the sweet-sounding quick-fixes from real solutions. When it comes to America's economy, we can't accept empty symbols and slogans. We need to work together -- that's what I like what Joe was saying about the way the Mayor and you all are approaching it in this city -- we've got to work together nationally and turn this economy around.

Tuesday night, I came before the American people to outline a program for doing just that. And we all know this is an election year. The air back in Washington has been thick with feel-good gimmicks that have nothing to do with true prosperity and everything to do with politics. We need to get down to business --

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literally. In the critical weeks ahead, common sense must replace partisanship. And I came here to ask for your help.

The plan that I put before Congress and the American people contained several action steps, and one of the most critical was this: to free up American businesses by clearing away the obstacles to growth -- high taxes, overregulation, and government deficits. And I've offered the only comprehensive plan that doesn't raise tax rates, doesn't throw away the spending discipline now in place on the Congress, these spending caps, and doesn't cut defense beyond what's necessary for this country's security. But let me tell you the three words that really separate my plan from what I think of the rest of them: It will work. Those three, it will work.

Each of us has a role to play, so I am moving forward with steps I can take right now. You may remember I divided that State of the Union message into steps I can take, short-term areas where we need legislation; and then a longer-term program. Right now, I have instructed every Cabinet department to speed up progrowth expenditures -- and we estimate that will be as much as \$10 billion worth in the next six months. Don't have to go to Congress to get them to do that, we just accelerate the spending plans to try to give this economy an extra kick.

I directed the Secretary of the Treasury to change the federal tax tables so that millions of Americans can choose to have the government withhold less from their paychecks. Now, that's a large number. That could pump as much as \$25 billion into the economy this year alone. That is money in the pockets of working men and women to help pay for clothing, or to help save for college, or to help buy a new car. And after all, it is their money. And there has been this schedule where really there has been overwithholding. And this, I think, will give -- for those who elect to do it -- if everyone elected to do it, it would be \$25 billion, and I think that will give the economy a jolt.

I have asked Cabinet departments and federal agencies to institute a 90-day moratorium on new federal regulations that could hinder growth. We'll undertake a top-to-bottom review in the fields of energy, the environment, transportation, exports, financial services, and communications, among others. Here's the test: We will accelerate any regulations that encourage growth and the creation of jobs. And whenever possible, we will scrap those that tie the hands of business and impede growth. I know I have regulatory responsibilities affecting safety in the workplace, for example; health; environmental protection. And I will not neglect those responsibilities.

But you know as well as anyone how government -- sometimes with the best of intentions -- can hobble innovation and risk-taking, the life-blood of a successful business. Government naturally tends to expand ever outward, its red tape oblivious to anything standing in its path. It touches everyone. Every regulation that reduces efficiency slaps a hidden tax on the consumer as well. From the tab on a bag of groceries at the checkout line to the sticker price on the showroom floor -- every American takes a hit when the government over-regulates.

American businessmen and women need this freedom to experiment, to compete without looking over their shoulders for Washington's approval. Small businesses and those just starting up feel the sting of overregulation most of all. Yet these businesses drive America forward. They create most of our new jobs. They reinvigorate our communities. They embody the power of the American dream. I make this pledge: We will set America's dreamers and doers free and put an end to regulatory overkill. (Applause.)

In some of this area I will need the help of the Congress, and I promise I will take the message as strongly as I can

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to the Congress in this regard. Even now, an untold number of hard-working, responsible men and women go without needed bank loans for starting up a new business, or for investing more in an existing one. We've got to ease the credit crunch and give these people a chance. That's why we've given the bank regulators more than 30 policy changes and clarifications to restore common sense and balance to the regulatory system.

I've mentioned this before, but in regulation, again, we have a responsibility. We don't want to go back to what is known as forbearance, where we neglect the soundness that is required. But there is regulatory overkill; the people are afraid, I think, in some instances in the financial community because of the excesses of regulation. And we're going to try very hard to achieve a better balance.

Now, I've mentioned some of the things that I can do -- and there's a few more. But Tuesday night I told Congress, directly challenged it, told it directly what it must do. And I started with the obvious: No investment, no new jobs. Congress must reward investment and stop punishing success. For three years now, I have asked the Congress to lower the capital gains tax. And for three years, that essential growth measure has been pilloried and parodied as a windfall for the rich. Now, you and I know that claim for what it is: it's nonsense. Sixty percent -- sixty percent of the people who benefit from lower capital gains have incomes under \$50,000.

A windfall for the rich? By freeing up investment, a cut in the capital gains tax creates new jobs for those looking for work and better jobs for those who want to move up. A lower capital gains tax helps anyone who owns a small business or a farm -- anyone who owns a home, anyone who has a single investment. We're talking about helping every working man and woman and every retired person in this country.

We don't have time for any more of this demagoguery on this question. Let me remind you, in Japan, the effective capital gains tax rate comes to about one percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. To create jobs, to restore a vibrant economy for all Americans, Congress must lower the capital gains tax. And it must lower the capital gains tax now -- 15.4 percent. (Applause.)

With a few simple steps, taken right now, Congress can help get the housing industry -- builders, investors, buyers and sellers -- back on its feet. To those young families who want to buy their first home but can't quite afford it, I say this: We can help put your dream within reach. And we will. I have offered a plan to allow first-time homebuyers to withdraw savings from IRAs without penalty, and to provide a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of a home.

I might say parenthetically that Senator Specter, your Senator, has been in the forefront of fighting for the change on how IRAs are treated. He understands what this can mean in terms of stimulating the economy and helping the homeowner. And I have asked Congress to mark the calendar. They must put my recovery plan in place by March 20.

Yesterday, right after -- the State of the Union was the night before -- and yesterday morning, I went up to the Congress and I met with the leaders of both the House and the Senate up on Capitol Hill. And I urged them to meet this timetable. I set the deadline because of a simple fact: The American people want action. They deserve action. Our states are working overtime -- so are thousands of communities across the country. They're tightening their belts, aggressively facing the future. And every day, individual Americans are working hard to get this economy back on its feet, and it's time

for Congress to do the same thing. (Applause.) It can be done in that time frame.

What troubles me is if we let it drag on, it's going to get really caught up in the rough and tumble of 1992 national politics. People are crying out for help now, and the Congress can move. We've seen them do it on a wide array of legislative initiatives, and they can do it on these stimulative tax changes. So I ask every member of Congress -- and please tell them the same thing -- to set aside now partisanship for just 51 days and give this plan a chance. Get the plan, put it to work.

Immediate growth, as I mentioned at the outset, is just one part of the picture, one part of our program. We've got to look even further ahead -- to ensure that when the American economy regains its strength -- and inevitably it will -- it stays strong.

We start by opening markets to American goods. In our trade negotiations, we will continue to push for open trade, pulling down the barriers that stand in the way of international competition.

To guarantee that American goods and services are the world's finest, we must guarantee America's preeminence in another field -- in the field of education. Our America 2000 strategy will revolutionize education in this country, will create New American schools, places where our kids will learn the lessons they need for a new century. And it will allow parents to choose their children's schools. Choice means competition, and you understand as well as anyone what comes from competition. Competition inspires innovation and creativity. It inspires excellence. And that's why we are going to push for our program, we're going to push for school choice.

As I look at education and the fact that we are not where we should be in world standing, it isn't a question of a change here and there. It isn't a question of adding to programs that have failed, programs mandated in Washington. It is a question, literally, of revolutionizing. And that's what we tried to do when we set the education goals, working with Republican and Democrat governors; that's what we're trying to do with Lamar Alexander in the lead for us, our Secretary of Education, as we take this America 2000 program all across the country. We need your help. It is the best possible investment for the future of this country.

Now, we need a healthy America -- and that means reforming health care. I think everyone would agree we cannot afford our present system. But we've reached a fork in the road. We can either go the way of greater government mandates, leading inevitably to a state system of nationalized care, with the long lines and indifferent service that such a system creates. Or we can reform our private system, preserving the greatest possible patient choice, maintaining the quality of care -- which, for all its faults, is still the best in the world. That's the approach I outlined in a rather broad detail Tuesday night, and that's the approach that I will take when we announce the full detail of our plan next week.

We've proposed another reform, one that is crucial to creating jobs. America has become the most litigious society on Earth. Frivolous lawsuits are exhausting our ability to compete. If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we would be a century ahead of the rest of the world. (Applause.)

Lawsuit madness gums everything up. Needed new products never reach the marketplace because of concerns over liability. In many areas, businesses are forced either to drive prices into the stratosphere -- or literally close shop.

My Competitiveness Council, that's chaired by the Vice President, Vice President Quayle, has offered 50 concrete recommendations to restore sanity to our civil justice system. I've

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enacted some of these recommendations by Executive Order. Others, however, require Congress to act. And with all respect, there are 62 lawyers in the United States Senate, a lot of lawyers up there on Capitol Hill. I realize that might present a problem, but it also presents an opportunity. And I'd like to see them move forward now with these changes to cap some of these outrageous areas of unlimited liability. It's driving our small businesses right flat into the ground, and costing American workers jobs.

And, finally, I can use Congress's help in another all-important area. We must get the federal deficit under control. Now, let's face the facts: The government in Washington is too big and it spends too much. I have proposed a freeze on all domestic discretionary budget authority as well as a freeze on federal domestic government employment. And I have asked Congress to get rid of 246 federally-funded programs. Now, some of them have very noble titles. But in these times, none of them is indispensable. And I'm going to call on Congress to get rid of them. I think we're talking about something like \$4 billion in this regard. the list.

For too long, Congress has been violating an important principle of good government: Do no harm. It's been imposing its own habits on state and local governments -- and the taxpayer ends up, as you may all know, by footing the bill. These unfinanced federal government mandates, as they're called, require the cities, require the states to provide new services or institute new programs -- but the Congress doesn't provide the money to pay for them. That means the local governments must pass along Congress's wish list to the taxpayer in the form of higher taxes at the local level. Now, the National Governor's Association -- made up, obviously, of Republicans and Democrats -- continually urge the Congress to stop these mandates, which are killing innovation, killing savings at the state and local level.

From now on, if Congress passes a mandate, it shouldn't pass the buck. Congress must pay for the mandates it imposes, without heaping on new taxes. (Applause.) I've spared you some of the detail. But taken together, these and other steps that I've outlined will, in my view, reinvigorate our economy -- give it the boost that it needs now, and ensure that it continues to provide opportunity and create jobs for all who want to partake. That is the promise America makes to her citizens. They have a right to expect no less.

Almost two centuries ago, Philadelphia's merchants gathered together at the City Tavern to form this Chamber of Commerce. They looked out on a nation almost limitless in possibility. A special kind of faith brought them here -- that if they worked hard, and worked together, their young country would allow them to fulfill their dreams. America has changed dramatically in those 200 years. And yet, the essentials remain. The pessimists are wrong; the pessimists are wrong. We are going to pull out of these tough times. Inflation is down; inventories are down. The market has been expressing optimism in the future. Interest rates are down.

This is no time for gloom and doom. It is time for action in Washington to restore confidence and get this economy moving again. (Applause.) And here's where you come in. We need your help. You can effect the way Congress approaches this program that I have outlined in some detail. We need your help. And with your help, we'll get that action, and we will reaffirm our country's rightful place as the world's leader, for this decade and for the next century.

Thank you all very, very much for this opportunity.
Thank you. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 23, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WHOLESALER-DISTRIBUTORS

The Old Executive Office Building

9:20 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, and welcome to all of you. Thanks to Alan Kranowitz for all his fine work and, of course, to my friend Dirk Van Dongen, over here. History -- a little history -- I understand that he's celebrating his 25th anniversary with the NAW this year. And I might say to those who haven't worked with him closely as I have that he does a superb job for sound economic principles, most of which affect the NAW but some of which don't. But he's in there for the solid principles day in and day out. And I am very grateful to him for that.

I want to welcome Jay Church and Jimmy Taylor, who just welcomed me. Thank our Chief of Staff Sam Skinner, who's come into a tough job, taken the ball, running with it and doing a first-class job. I understand you also heard from Lou Sullivan, a great Secretary of HHS; and then, of course, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Colin Powell. So I hope, through these two avenues, and then, Sam, you've gotten some feel in a little more detail as to what it is we're trying to do. I'm delighted to have this chance to speak to the certain key and most influential people of NAW.

The last time we got together I could hardly speak at all. (Laughter.) I know it's good to leave them speechless, but I don't think -- (laughter) -- the speaker is the one they have in mind. But look at it this way, I could have thrown up on the front here and -- (laughter and applause.) You've got to admit when I get the flu it's really dramatic. (Laughter.) But as long as we're -- I don't want to dwell on that subject, but -- (laughter) -- one, it was embarrassing, and, two, in 24 hours I just felt like a million bucks again. So I have a funny feeling that a lot of people in this country may be understood getting the flu. But, nevertheless, that's history, and I'm just delighted to be here and see you all today.

You probably read a lot about it. We are working hard on a State of the Union message for next week. I believe that people that think as you do will be pleased with the results. I'm going to use that occasion to continue to push for the things we stand for, and that means jobs, it means a strong and growing economy in a marketplace that's free of needless interference. It means telling Congress that we've got to hold the line on government spending. And, yes, there's a lot of pressures for more and more federal money -- that means taxpayers' money, incidentally -- I still understand that point. (Laughter.) And yet I think it is my responsibility to recognize that the deficit is outrageously large and that we have got to say no from time to time to these fantastically good-sounding but horribly detrimental spending plans. And I plan to bring that point up. We have got to hold the line on spending.

You here at NAW have been a tremendous help through the years in working for a common-sense approach to the economy. In fact, I count on the NAW's expertise in more ways than you realize.

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Having just asked Nick Calio, an alumnist who returned to help us work on Capitol Hill -- many of you may not have met him, but he was here and then went over to NAW and will be returning to head up a very important part of our White House organization.

Let's face it, this is an election year. And so you're going to hear all kinds of proposals out there promoting a lot of gimmicks. Given the fact this country is hurting, people are hurting, you're going to see a lot of quick fixes that will supposedly turn the economy around. I don't believe we need them. I think we've got to set common-sense goals, stick with them, and then, as I say in the State of the Union message, I'll be making specific proposals as to how to help more rapidly achieve those goals.

Any plan that truly prepares our economy for the future has got to meet five tests. One, it must stimulate investment that's necessary to create jobs. Secondly, it's got to bolster the real estate values and increase home sales. One of the disturbing things in these slow times has been the diminution of a family's fundamental balance sheet that comes from the marking down of homes and real estate. And so we've got to bolster real estate values, increase home sales -- that's number two.

Number three, it must give Americans confidence that they will be able to afford the cost of raising a family. That means education -- we've got some bold educational reforms -- it means obtaining health care. And fourth, it must increase America's capacity to compete in a global economy. And finally, number five, it must control this wasteful government spending and got to work to bringing this deficit down.

And taken all together, these tests, I think, will separate serious proposals from the quick-fix proposals, the gimmicks. Some of my critics say they want to create jobs, and then they call for raising taxes and imposing even more mandates, centrally-controlled mandates to hamstring businesses with government red tape. Or they say they want to make the U.S. economy competitive and then they call for building a fence around the United States of America. The old-fashioned siren's call of protection.

These gimmicks are about politics. They are not about prosperity for the United States of America. And prosperity lies in opening markets, not closing them. And I'm pleased that recently, with our trip to Asia, we've been able to make progress in that regard without resorting to protectionism.

Yesterday, for example, we signed a path-breaking agreement ensuring the U.S. computer companies will be able to compete and compete fairly for the Japanese government, not the private sector. We're already selling -- 40 percent of computers into Japan's private sector are U.S. But .4 percent -- to give you an example, .4 percent of the government-bought computers are U.S. So it can't be a question of quality. So yesterday we signed this path-breaking agreement that ensures the U.S. computer companies will be allowed to compete fairly for Japanese government -- for the computer market of the government. And that's what we should be doing, beating down the barriers to our exports.

I mentioned health care. We must and will be doing something about that. I think I'll have sound proposals. But you'll also hear a lot of loose talk in an election year about health care. And I'm going to discuss this issue in-depth and quite positively in my address next week. But we ought to be clear about a couple of health care principles at the start.

First, government efforts to centrally manage or mandate benefits produce more problems than they solve. And secondly, we must forego approaches to the problem that costs jobs. Now this is a

time to concentrate on creating jobs, not driving small businesses out of business. And that means don't overburden the small businesses with a lot of federal mandates.

I salute the NAW for its leadership in creating HEAL -- the Health Care Early Action League -- a major coalition that promotes market-based solutions to the problems in our health care system. And I look forward to working with HEAL after I announce my health care plan.

As each of you knows, what American businesses want is a fair shake, from our trading partners and certainly from the government. And let them go ahead in a world marketplace and I am absolutely convinced the American companies can outthink, outwork, outcompete anyone in the world -- the companies and the workers, the work force, they can do just that.

And I share your faith, your undiminished faith in American business, because, like you, I understand the values that have made American business the model for the whole world: hard work, creativity and certainly a willingness to take risks; to believe in your dreams and then make good on them.

If we build on those values, and if we use them as our guiding light, this economy is going to turn around. I am not a gloom and doom person about the American economy. We've been through an awful lot, but this economy will turn around, particularly if we take the approach to these economic issues that I've outlined here today. We're going to lead the world. We are the undisputed leader of the world. We ought not to forget that.

There are some people in this room that are young enough to have children -- young children that is. (Laughter.) And I don't happen to fit into that category about young children. (Laughter.) But I've got grandchildren; some of you all have got little kids. And there's something rather nice that they're going to school, coming home, going to sleep at night and not worrying about a nuclear conflict erupting and engulfing the whole world.

We've got a lot to be grateful for in this country. We've got a lot of problems, but we're the leader of the world, and I intend to keep it just exactly that way. We're going to whip this economic problem we're facing. We are going to continue to lead the world. We are going to stay involved at home and certainly abroad, now and well into the next century.

So don't let the continuous pounding of what's wrong with this country obscure your fundamental confidence, your fundamental conviction, which is mine, that we are the greatest, freest country on the face of the Earth, and we're going to prevail. (Applause.)

Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

9:35 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Catonsville, Maryland)

For Immediate Release

January 21, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEAD START INITIATIVE

Emily Harris Head Start Center
Banneker Community Building
Catonsville, Maryland

10:05 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Marianne Anderson, thank you so very much -- not just you, but everybody that has given us this very warm welcome. May I salute our Secretary of Education who is with us. Were you introduced before I walked in here? Lamar -- stand up, come on -- Lamar Alexander, the Secretary of Education for the United States. (Applause.) Lou Sullivan, right here, is the Secretary of HHS. And most of you know him by his works, but Lou, I guess you were greeted. (Applause.)

And may I single out Congressman Helen Bentley, who flew over with us on Marine One -- here she is, over here. (Applause.) And I would be remiss if I didn't especially single out my friend, your Governor, Don Schaefer. (Applause.)

We have these national education goals, and then we have a group of governors, nonpartisan, come together -- all of them, as a matter of fact, to endorse them. And to implement these goals we have a program that Lamar is working so hard on, Lou helping, I'm trying to help, called America 2000. And I think you and Maryland can take pride that your Governor was the first one on and has been an early advocate of goal one -- or the whole program -- first one on board; and secondly, a very early advocate of Head Start and this early learning concept. So I appreciate, Governor, your taking the time to come here in that spirit.

And I salute the parents, without whom this program cannot do its -- work to its fulfillment. Parents, parental involvement. And we saw that, and I salute the parents not only here, but out there, who are doing so much to get these kids ready to learn.

Last Friday, I had the privilege of visiting the living memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King in Atlanta; went down there with Coretta Scott King. And contemplating the legacy that Dr. King left for us all, I was struck once again by the immense importance that he placed on quality education.

He called it "the passport to a better life." And he was right. We face a great challenge today in making America a country that will lead not only in the 1990s, but in the 21st century -- lead -- the leadership in education.

This mission involves many things. And next week when I deliver a State of the Union message, you'll see that we've been doing some hard thinking about how to fulfill this uniquely American destiny. And one of the keys is to make sure that this generation of young Americans, like these young people here today, are prepared to lead.

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And in a word, that demands educational excellence. As many of you know, we've launched a comprehensive strategy to radically transform -- radically transform -- America's schools. And, yes, we've set high goals. And the first goal is this, and I mentioned it earlier: by the year 2000, every American child must start school ready to learn.

Many children need a head start, and we're going to make sure they get it. Today I'm pleased to announce that we're taking a large step toward meeting that first crucial goal. In the budget that I'll submit later this month, I will ask Congress for a \$600-million increase in Head Start, the largest increase ever. (Applause.)

And we've fought for increases the last three years, but this one is the largest ever. It's the third straight one, as a matter of fact. Increasing funding for Head Start has been a priority with me, with Dr. Sullivan, with Secretary Alexander and others for a long, long time. Certainly, for the teachers, the dedicated teachers that we've seen here today.

And in 1989, just a little review here, we increased funding over 1988 levels as well as in 1990, and then again in 1991. And these funds will allow every eligible four-year-old child whose parents want them to participate to have the Head Start experience before starting school. Every eligible four-year-old. And when Congress approves my request -- and I'm confident they will go along -- we will have more than double the program's funding over the past three years.

Of course, in education as in other fields, government is just one part of the larger solution. Real progress in America comes from strong families and communities; from committed individuals binding together in common purpose, whether it's a church congregation, opening a day care center in its neighborhood or parents taking a little extra time to read to their children.

No government program alone can guarantee that children start school ready to learn. No government program can take the place of parents and of communities that nurture the children who otherwise might have been left far behind. But in Head Start we found a government program that works, that works to strengthen communities and families for the future.

Time has proved that Head Start brings out the best in us. And last year, more than 800,000 Americans gave of themselves by volunteering in a Head Start program. That is an amazing figure. You can see it right here at the Emily Harris Head Start Program, where the entire staff including volunteers make sure their young pupils get the skills that will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives. They learn about getting along, they learn about sharing with others, about independence, about self-confidence.

Every parent here knows that Head Start is really more than education. It provides hot meals, ensures that children receive immunizations and access to needed social services, health and dental care. Dr. Sullivan, whose department does such a splendid job in administering Head Start, knows from personal experience the importance of nurturing the body as well as the mind.

And most of all, Head Start is about family. Head Start couldn't be the success it's been without the direct involvement of parents. Governing councils give parents the opportunity to set the program's direction; Head Start brings parents right into the classroom and into the learning process. And they attend child care workshops and they learn how to prepare well-balanced meals. And all of these serve to reinvigorate those family values that are the true key to a happy, wholesome and productive life.

Head Start works. It's not perfect. We're committed to making a good program better. Over the past three years we've made sure these increased funds best serve the needs of families. We've made family service centers part of Head Start to provide substance abuse counseling, job training for parents who need them. And we've encouraged every Head Start program to offer adult literacy classes for Head Start parents.

But our greatest challenge lies in ensuring that when children leave Head Start ready to learn, they enter an educational system where they can learn. We're hoping with the Head Start, let's make sure they cross the finish line, too, prepared to be the leaders of the next century.

I really was very pleased to be here today. And I'm honored that I've had a chance to see firsthand the work that the teachers, the parents, the community is doing to support this worthwhile program. It is an example for the rest of our nation. So thank all of you. And let me say in conclusion, thanks for the kids.

I learned an awful lot about bathtub toys -- (laughter) -- about how to work the telephone. One guys knows -- several of them know their own phone numbers -- preparation to go to the dentist. A lot of things that I'd forgotten. (Laughter.) So it's been a good day.

Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

10:11 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT WEE KIM WEE
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

Westin Plaza Hotel
Singapore

9:03 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Your Excellency, Mr. George Bush, President of the United States of America, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. President, Mrs. Barbara Bush, and your distinguished delegation to Singapore. You have greatly honored us by your visit to our island republic.

Mr. President, you lead the United States at an historic turning point of the world. Momentous changes have taken place. The international situation is in a period of flux as a new world order takes shape.

As President of the United States, you will have a decisive role in helping to shape it. Your vision and steadfastness were never more in evidence when you forged the international coalition to force Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Your actions during the Gulf crisis demonstrated your resolve that the new world order should be based on the rule of law. The world is in your debt, Mr. President, for your leadership in resisting aggression and asserting the rule of law.

Mr. President, although the Cold War has ended and the communist ideology is discredited, the United States' presence in the Asia Pacific and continuation of the United States-Japan security alliance remain vital for regional peace and stability.

Any significant change in the United States interest or capability will set off reactions that can only increase uncertainties and instability. Singapore will do what it can under the memorandum of understanding between us to facilitate the continued American presence and interest in the region.

Mr. President, the United States and Singapore have traditionally enjoyed close and warm relations. This is, in a large measure, because we share the United States' strategic objectives of a world where peace, stability and security allow all nations to concentrate on economic development in order to improve their people's well-being through free trade and investments.

The United States has been Singapore's major trading partner for many years, and is also our biggest investor. Many American companies are in business in Singapore.

Some use Singapore as the operational headquarters for the entire region. They have made substantial contributions to Singapore's economy. They have helped to transfer technology and develop our managerial talent.

Because of an enlightened outlook in these companies, Singaporeans have risen to become chief executive officers of the Singapore operations of major firms like IBM and Hewlett Packard.

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Singapore companies have now begun to invest in the United States. They are small players, but they illustrate how the free market works to the advantage of all participants.

The conclusion of a trade and investment framework agreement between Singapore and the United States in October 1991 will give added impetus to the floor of trade and investment between our two countries. The Asia Pacific is the most vibrant region in economic growth in the world. It was the United States policies after World War II that made this possible. It started with the rehabilitation of Japan during the Korean War in 1950 to '53, followed by the reconstruction of Korea and Taiwan.

The growth spread into ASEAN with ever-increasing trade and investments. The potential is enormous, as is apparent from the volume of America's transpacific trade -- now about one-third larger than its transatlantic trade.

The United States can play a significant part in strengthening economic ties across the Pacific. APEC can hasten the pace at which these links grow to the benefit of all. Mr. President, despite America's present economic difficulties, we believe that the United States has the intellectual vigor and the economic weight to lead the way to what's a better future for the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you to rise and join me in a toast to the health and success of President George Bush and Mrs. Barbara Bush; to the prosperity of the people of the United States of America; and to the continuing friendship and close ties between our two countries.

Mr. President, Mrs. Bush.

(A toast is offered.)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. It really has been an honor to be with you and to be the first American President to visit the Republic of Singapore. A Malay proverb reminds us, "He who has many friends ready to help need not fear threats." And tonight Barbara and I want to thank all of you for your friendship and your hospitality.

I will only single out the Prime Minister, having mentioned the President, Senior Minister, but so many have been so kind and so thoughtful to us. We are very pleased to be here in Singapore, Southeast Asia's smallest nation, yet a leader and yet a land large in opportunity.

You know how free markets and free trade can further opportunity. You've shown us. You've led the way. You know, too, how opportunity can enhance the new world order that President Wee referred to.

Mr. President, I salute you for helping shaped that order, for working with America to promote stability and prosperity. And as a friend, Singapore's grant of access for our forces has helped ensure the security of this area. And I also want to note the role ASEAN has played in working for peace in Cambodia.

Your national anthem proclaims, "may Singapore progress." And let us vow to achieve progress for democracy for this entire area of the world. Twenty-five centuries ago Confucius said, "Wisdom, compassion and courage, these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men." Well, in that spirit, I would invite all of our guests to rise and raise their glasses to these very qualities that Confucius spoke of which promote peace and human

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dignity; to the friendship, and it is a genuine one, between the people of Singapore and the people of the United States of America; and to your health, Mr. President, and that of your nation, now and in all the years to come. And once again, our thanks for a wonderful visit.

To you, sir, and to the people of Singapore.

(A toast is offered.)

END

9:15 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Georgia)

For Immediate Release

October 20, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT NORCROSS WELCOME

Norcross, Georgia

12:15 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: What a great Georgia day.
(Applause.) Thank you for that great welcome. It is great to be in the land of the free and the home of the Braves. Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

You know, everywhere I go I see signs that say "Clean House." We need more members of Congress like Newt Gingrich. And I'm delighted to have been introduced by him. (Applause.) So send us more like Newt, and also, while we're at it, let's clean Senate and elect Paul Coverdell to the United States Senate. (Applause.)

I am very proud to have at my side today the Governor of South Carolina, Carroll Campbell, one of the outstanding governors in the entire United States. I'm glad he's here. And of course, my friend and supporter in the Senate, Strom Thurmond. I'll tell you, he does a great job for this country. (Applause.)

May I thank Brooks Coleman, our master of ceremonies. And may I salute the world's best First Lady, Barbara Bush. I'm proud she's out here today. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Barbara! Barbara! Barbara!

THE PRESIDENT: And I like all these signs around here. I referred to that one the other night, last night in the debate. I love it. And we're going to show 'em on November 3rd exactly how it works. (Applause.)

You know, baseball is like politics. So forget about all these polls. Forget people telling you how you think. And on Election Day, on Election Day we're going to show America that it ain't over until Cabrera swings. (Applause.) And that is exactly the way it's going to be.

Anybody out here see that debate last night?

AUDIENCE: Yes. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: The thing I liked about it is we had a chance to lay out the differences, the choice for the American people -- a vast difference between experience a vast difference on philosophy, and a vast difference on character and confidence in the United States. I hope I stand for all four, and I challenge my opponent on all four. (Applause.)

You know, there was one scary moment in that debate last night, and that's when Governor Clinton said that he would do for America what he's done for Arkansas. You talk about a real threat.

AUDIENCE: Booooo.

THE PRESIDENT: Here he is, running with "Mr. Ozone," Senator Gore, and Arkansas is 50th in the environmental

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initiatives; 49th in high school dropouts; 45th in overall well-being of children; 75 percent of the kids that graduate from high school have to get remedial reading, remedial education when they go to college; and their income and their jobs and their wages lag the nation. We cannot let him do for the United States what he's already done to Arkansas. (Applause.)

And I've got to admit, I agree with the feisty little guy from Dallas on one thing -- when he said the grocery store is no preparation for Wal-Mart. I thought that was a pretty good line. (Applause.) And let me put it in baseball terms: The Little League ain't any preparation for the Atlanta Braves, either. (Applause.)

You know, we had a chance to talk about the economy. And, yes, we've been going through some tough times. But what we don't need is a dose of lousy medicine. He wants to raise taxes by \$150 billion and increase spending by \$220 billion --

AUDIENCE: Booooo.

THE PRESIDENT: -- and we cannot let him do that to the United States.

AUDIENCE: Booooo.

THE PRESIDENT: And you know who's going to pay it. He says, "I'm going to sock the rich." That won't get him any money at all. What he's going to do is sock it to the cab driver and the nurse and the beautician and the housewife. And I will protect against all these tax increases that Clinton wants to load on you, the taxpayer. (Applause.)

I think -- you know, I've got a difference in philosophy. I think that we're taxing too much and spending too much. He wants to tax more and spend more. Do not let this happen to the United States of America. (Applause.)

I believe in a state like Georgia one of the things that's going to save us and lead the recovery is more exports, more free and fair trade. And I will continue to fight to expand our exports, because we have the best workers, the best products anywhere in the world. Let them have competition in foreign markets and we will create more American jobs. (Applause.)

Another big difference -- I can't even remember whether I mentioned it last night. I think I did -- is the difference I have with him on legal reform. I want to reform our legal system and stop these crazy lawsuits. We've gone too far. (Applause.) Doctors are afraid to practice medicine, Little League guys are afraid to coach, somebody along the highway sees a victim and they're afraid to stop because if they move the body a little bit to bring comfort, somebody's going to sue them for doing the wrong thing. We sue each other too much and care for each other too little in this country. And we've got to change that. (Applause.)

You saw the differences last night on education. I want to give parents the right to choose their schools -- public, private or religious. (Applause.) Give the middle class a break. Give the middle class a little relief.

Health care -- he wants to put a government board in there. I want to reform health care and make insurance available to all -- the poorest of the poor, give the middle class a break on it. Keep the government out of the health care business, and let's compete and make our health care the best and most affordable in the entire world. (Applause.)

And very candidly, we've got a big difference on crime. I was delighted the other day when the FOP, the Fraternal Police Officers came up to Washington from Little Rock, Arkansas,

and that police group endorsed me for President of the United States. (Applause.) And they did it because I agree with Strom Thurmond, who is fighting for tough anticrime legislation. We need to support the police officers more and have a little less sympathy for the criminals themselves. (Applause.)

And I am for reforming government. I am with Newt Gingrich and Strom Thurmond because I want a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution; I want a line-item veto; I want to give you, the people, a taxpayer check-off. So we must compel the Congress to get this federal deficit down. (Applause.) And I want to give the Congress back to the people by having term limits up there, too. There are term limits on the President -- term limits for the members of Congress. (Applause.)

And lastly, I made a distinction last night. Governor Clinton said in Richmond, it's not the character of the President that counts, it's the character of the presidency. I repeat today, especially to the young people, these two are inseparable. These two are inseparable. (Applause.) You cannot flip-flop on the issues every single time. One day you said you told the full truth on your sorry draft record, and the next day it comes out you haven't. (Applause.)

On Desert Storm, there was a proud moment for the sons and daughters of Georgia. Governor Clinton said, well, I probably was with the minority, or I supported the minority, but I probably would have voted with the majority. You cannot waffle. You cannot turn the White House into the Waffle House. (Applause.)

It is his pattern. It is his pattern of trying to be all things to all people. You simply cannot have a pattern of deception. And you cannot separate the character of the presidency from the character of the President. I have tried to be a faithful custodian of the trust you have placed in me. Barbara and I have tried to protect and revere the White House, where we are privileged to learn and live, and I will do that for four more years. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: You cannot literally flip-flop on all these issues and lead. You cannot lead by misleading. You can't say one day, "Well, I think Toronto is great, but I'm for the Braves." You've got to take a position. I am for the Braves -- courageously. (Applause.)

And my last point is simply this. The opposition would have you believe that the United States is a nation in decline. Governor Clinton said, well, we're something less than -- paraphrasing -- we're something less than Germany, but a little better than Sri Lanka. Let me tell him something. We are the best, the fairest, the most decent, and the strongest country on the face of the Earth. (Applause.)

And, yes, our economy needs fixing, but we're caught up in something global. We're in an interdependent world. Our economy, in spite of its ailment, is doing better than Germany and Japan and England. And France and with our leadership and our Agenda for America's Renewal, we are going to lead our way to economic recovery around the entire world, meaning jobs for the American worker. (Applause.)

Thank you for this fantastic turnout, and don't let him say we are second class. We are the United States -- the freest, fairest, greatest nation on the face of the Earth. And I need your support, and I ask for your vote. Thank you all and God bless you. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(North Carolina)

For Immediate Release

October 21, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THOMASVILLE WELCOME

Thomasville, North Carolina

3:12 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: What a great North Carolina day. (Applause.) Thank you, Governor Jim Martin. I'll tell you something -- the people of North Carolina are lucky to have such a quality man of character leading this state as Jim Martin. (Applause.) And now we've got to keep that character and quality going by electing Jim Gardner to be the next Governor of North Carolina. (Applause.)

I'm delighted to see a man here who supports me and supports our country so much -- Congressman Howard Coble. (Applause.) If we had more like him they wouldn't be yelling, "Clean House" at me. We need more like him. And while we're at it, we need to help of our distinguished guest today, Senator Strom Thurmond, one of America's truly greats over here. (Applause.) And we need to help him by cleaning Senate. And that means send our friend, Lauch Faircloth to the United States Senate.

Lauch Faircloth is one of the great -- he'd be a great senator. He'll go up there and change things. And the status quo is what's wrong. We need him in the Senate. Send him up there. He's doing just great. (Applause.)

And then we've got another sportsman here. I think of North Carolina as a sporting state, one that loves athletics. Charlotte's coming on strong. We've got Darryl Waltrip right here, one of America's greats. (Applause.)

And so we've got them all. And now we're ready to go. And let me thank everybody responsible for this wonderful rally -- the great bands from Thomasville, East Davidson, and Ledford High Schools. (Applause.) And it's great to be here with last year's state champions, the Thomasville High School Bulldogs. (Applause.)

And can I tell you something as a satisfied customer? You've got to make the best furniture in the entire world. (Applause.) Not only is it made right here, but also there's a certain generosity of spirit by the companies and the workers involved, because I'm told that you were sending furniture to the victims of Hurricane Andrew. That is the American spirit, and I'm very grateful to you. (Applause.)

And now on to the business at hand. Did anybody watch that debate the other night? (Applause.) Let me tell you -- well, I thought we did all right, I thought we did okay. But let me tell you this. What I think you saw was a vast difference in experience, certainly a vast difference in philosophy, and a vast difference in character. And character matters for President of the United States. (Applause.)

Governor Clinton made a horrible comment. He said he wants to do for the United States what he's done for Arkansas. That would be terrible.

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AUDIENCE: Boooooooo.

THE PRESIDENT: Let me click off some gloomy statistics and then we'll get on to something a little more positive. Arkansas -- you've got this Ozone Man on the ticket with him -- you know, Gore. Arkansas ranks the 50th in quality of environmental standards; it ranks 50th in per capita spending on criminal justice; it ranks 49th in per capita spending on police protection; it ranks 48th in percentage of adults with high school diplomas; it is 48th on spending on corrections; 46th on teachers' salaries; and 45th in the overall well-being of children. You cannot take a failing Little League coach and put him on to coach the Atlanta Braves -- manage the Braves. (Applause.)

He calls this change. He says he's the candidate of change. Well, let's take a close look at what he offers. How about this one for openers -- and he hasn't got there: \$150 billion in new taxes and \$220 in new spending. That is trickle-down government and we don't need it in Washington, D.C. (Applause.) He says he'd take it to the -- sock it to the rich. Watch out, middle America. Watch out, struggling nurse or family person. He's going to stick it right in your wallet -- and you don't need that anymore. Let's get the taxes down and the spending down. (Applause.)

The last time we got that kind of change -- you don't have to go back to Herbert Hoover. Go back to when you had a liberal Democrat in the White House and you had a Democrat spendthrift Congress that Lauch Faircloth wants to change. Go back and take a look. That was in the days of Jimmy Carter. Now, do you remember what interest rates --

AUDIENCE: Boooooooo.

THE PRESIDENT: Sorry, gang, but it's true. Do you remember what the interest rates were? Twenty-one and a half percent. Twenty-one percent. Inflation was robbing every senior citizen in this country -- 15 percent. We cannot go back to that failed policy. (Applause.) You keep going with that kind of change and change is all you'll have left in your pocket. We've got to do better.

And my philosophy is this: Cut the spending and cut the taxes and put more money -- put more money into the pockets of the American working man. (Applause.) And one way to do that is create more markets abroad. It's exports that have saved us in the global slowdown. We've got to increase exports, create more markets for the goods that are produced right here in North Carolina. And we can do it. But we can't do it by turning inward.

It's small business -- it's small business that creates the jobs in this country and we ought never to forget it. And that means -- they create two-thirds of the new jobs. And that means we need relief for taxation from small business; we need relief from regulation; and certainly, we need relief from litigation. We are suing each other too much in this country -- (applause) -- and caring for each other too little.

Legal reform is what we need. It's a sorry thing when malpractice insurance is running health care costs up for every American. When a guy sees somebody lying by the highway and doesn't dare stop to help him because they're afraid some trial lawyer will come along and sue him, when a person doesn't coach Little League because he's scared of getting a lawsuit by some nutty lawyer it is time to put a lid on this. Sue each other less, care for each other more. (Applause.)

And one big difference I've got is with him on health care. He wants to put a government board in to kind of ration out the health care of this country. And I want to make

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insurance available to the poorest of the poor. I want to give a tax credit to middle America so they can get a little relief. And make insurance available to everybody, but keep the quality up. We've got the best doctors in the world. Keep the quality up by keeping government under control. (Applause.)

A big difference on education. You see, he wants to put the control more in Washington. And I say this: We want to put control in the hands of the families. We did it in child care and now I want to do it in school choice. Help parents send their kids to all schools -- public schools, private schools, and religious schools. (Applause.) And he won't do that. And I am proud that under my administration more money is going to kids to help them go to college than anytime in the history of this country. (Applause.)

You know, as I ride along the rails and I see these crossings, I see law enforcement people out helping us at every crossing. And let me just say this: Strom Thurmond, one of the great leaders for strong anticrime legislation, is fighting in the Senate to make our laws tougher so that we back up our law enforcement officials and have more consideration for the victims of crime and less for the criminals. (Applause.) That's what we've got to do.

And what is Arkansas's policy? Arkansas's prisoners spend 20 percent of their sentences in jail. That's not good enough.

AUDIENCE: Booooo.

THE PRESIDENT: If a guy busts a law -- and certainly, if they kill a law enforcement officer, they ought to stay there until they get on Willard Scott's program on that 100th birthday. (Applause.)

You heard the difference the other day between how we get the government spending down. I'll give you three ideas. You give us Lauch Faircloth and we're going to help Strom get that job done. One, a balanced budget amendment. (Applause.) Two, a taxpayers' check-off that says if you're concerned about the deficit, check your tax return, and 10 percent of it has to go to lowering the deficit. And if Congress can't make the priorities, make them cut right straight across the board until we get the job done. (Applause.)

And the last one is, I want that line-item veto. Forty-three governors have it. (Applause.) Forty-three governors have it. Let's stop that pork barrel spending, do what's right for the American people, but not do what's right for the reelection of every member of the United States Congress. And, frankly, I like the idea of turning the Congress back to the people by putting on term limits. The President is limited, why not the Congress? (Applause.)

You know, the other night I guess one of the big differences came -- this was in the Richmond debate -- when Governor Clinton said it's not the character of the President, he says it's the character of the presidency. And to that, I say they're inseparable. You cannot separate it out. And character matters.

And the liberals don't like it when I talk about family values, but America knows what I mean. We've got to strengthen the family. (Applause.) And they don't like it when I say, yes, we're one nation under God -- and we are -- and we'd better never forget it. (Applause.)

But my argument with the Governor of Arkansas is you can't please everybody. I found that out in this job. You've got to call them as you see them. And if you make a mistake, you admit it. You don't try to cover it up and say one thing to one

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group and another thing to another group. And therein is a question of character -- on everything from the right to work laws, to term limits, to free trade, to the Persian Gulf, he's tried to be on one side and then another. And you cannot do that as President, and that is a matter of character. (Applause.)

There's a pattern of deception here, and America better look at it. There is a pattern of deception. I love what Governor Martin said about the patriotism of this state, serving your country -- and, yes, North Carolina responded perhaps more than any other state in Desert Storm. (Applause.)

But where was Governor Clinton? Where was Governor -- never mind. Don't let this guy say that. You're going to get me in trouble with the media. And who would want to do that? (Applause.)

But let me remind you where that man that wants to be commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces. This one didn't happen 23 years ago, this one happened about a year and a half ago. And what he said was -- at the time, I had to make a very tough decision, leading the country and the Congress to make a tough decision -- he said this. He said, well, I agreed with the minority, but I guess if it were a close vote, I guess if it were a close vote I would have voted with the majority. If we had listened to him -- Governor Martin is right -- Saddam Hussein would be in downtown Saudi Arabia and controlling the world oil supply and have a nuclear bomb. We didn't listen to that kind of waffle; we went ahead and made a tough decision. (Applause.) Character counts. Character matters. You cannot be all things to all people. And, yes, it matters.

Let me say this. First place, I wish Barbara Bush were here because I think we've got a great First Lady. (Applause.) But, you know, she and I have talked about this -- and as you know, we are blessed in our family. We're blessed with a bunch of grandkids, blessed with five wonderful children. And so, life has treated us pretty good. But when people are hurting in this country you feel it. You feel it right in your heart. And so I want to win this election not because I need this job, but I want to continue to serve the American people and lift up the hopes of these kids. (Applause.) We have literally changed the world.

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: We have literally changed the world. And the kids in these bands over here go to bed at night without that same fear of nuclear war that gripped their parents, and that is substantial change for world peace. (Applause.)

And now what we've got to do is take that same leadership with a new and changed Congress -- and there will be one -- and lift up America. We are not, as Clinton says, a nation in decline. We are the greatest, fairest, freest nation on the face of the Earth. And now let's make it better. Now let's make it better. (Applause.) Help me. But the change I'm talking about -- remember, send Lauch Faircloth to the United States Senate. We must change the Senate. Reelect Howard Coble, let's move America forward. And thank you, and may God bless this greatest country on the face of the Earth. Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

END

3:27 P.M. EDT