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Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Aarhus, Carol, Files
Subseries: Alpha File, 1990-1992

OA/ID Number: 13860
Folder ID Number: 13860-005

Folder Title:
Assorted As-Delivered Press Texts of [Presidential] Speeches [5]

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Office of the Press Secretary
(Greensboro, North Carolina)

For Immediate Release

September 23, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO TRIAD BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Joseph S. Koury Convention Center
Greensboro, North Carolina

9:50 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Tom. Thank you very, very much, and what a wonderful welcome back to this state. Thank you all, please be seated. It's an honor to be introduced by a successful, honored, small businessman, Tom Coble. Thank you, sir, for those kind words. I also want to salute the woman who's done so much to advance the interests of American small businesses, our Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Pat Saiki, former member of Congress and now of our SBA in Washington. (Applause.) And also to, of course, to salute the inimitable, marvelous Governor of this state, Jim Martin. What a job he's done for the country and for North Carolina. (Applause.) And salute, too, congressional candidates Barbara Gore Washington of the 12th District and Richard Burr of the 5th District. I'm glad to be with them. (Applause.)

And with us are our two national leaders of our Independent Business Coalition, Pat Harrison and Miller Hicks -- both here with us today -- here's Miller over here; and where's Pat? Whoops, she didn't make the head table -- sitting out here. (Laughter.) She should have; she's an outstanding business success.

Pat, stand up. And, Miller you've got to stand up and let them see you. (Applause.) These people are pulling together this national small business coalition -- Independent Business Coalition, we call it.

Well, I've come here to Greensboro to talk about small business -- and, really, to drive home for the nation the fact that businesses, like the ones that come together in the Triad business community, generate the hope and pride and the jobs that hold America together.

Take Joe Koury -- a well-respected member of the Triad, and the father of four beautiful daughters. Now, Joseph wasn't always the one-man conglomerate that we see today. He started small: began building his empire in the early years after World War II, buying up the old Army barracks here in Greensboro and turning them into housing -- sometimes for the same GIs who'd trained there before going off to war, now come home to start a family. And that ingenuity -- that spirit of enterprise -- that drive and dream tells us the meaning of opportunity, the meaning in America. And it's all over this great -- I don't want to start singling people out, but my friend, Jack Laughery is another one right here from this state who exemplifies the American Dream -- starting, taking risk, building. And it's a wonderful thing, and it's a wonderful epitome of the spirit of this state, in my view.

Now today, America's economy is working its way through a period of profound change. And, incidentally, it's not just America, it's international change. You saw the recent ups and downs in the international currency market. Other countries even now look

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to our economy as the envy of the world. And you see it here in North Carolina, these changes, just the way you do all across the country. Many of our larger companies have retrenched and, indeed, they've restructured -- and I know that these changes have been difficult for many working Americans. But America's small businesses have shown a staying power -- creating new products by the thousands -- new jobs literally by the millions.

Let me give you one statistic that will drive home just what I mean. In the 1980s, the numbers of workers employed by Fortune 500 companies actually went down. But in that same decade, small businesses boomed -- adding 16 million new jobs.

The simple fact is, small businesses are often the first to adapt to a changing world -- the first to turn change to advantage -- the force at the leading edge of economic recovery. And that's why it is absolutely critical that we do all we can to strengthen small businesses -- remove obstacles that stand in their way, and create incentives that unleash America's entrepreneurial genius. Helping small business reach for its dreams is key to my Agenda for America Renewal.

I've set a goal -- to make America the first -- the world's first \$10-trillion economy in the early years of the 21st Century. And when we get to that goal -- not if, but when -- and it is very achievable -- look at the numbers -- it won't be the chairmen of the Fortune 500 we have to thank -- it will be the men and women who run the small businesses that power America -- (applause) -- the men and women, for example, of the Triad business community.

Right now, small businesses employ over half of our nation's workforce. Small businesses create two-thirds of the new jobs in America. Small businesses are hothouses for innovation, and risk-taking, new ideas -- the very engine of entrepreneurial capitalism that pulls this economy forward.

And I know because I've been there myself. I did, as Mr. Coble said, run a small business -- started it from the ground up, with a lot of help, obviously, from coworkers and partners. And I know what it's like to sweat out a deal, and shop for credit, stay up late worrying how you're going to meet the next payroll. And I've even got the ulcers, or had them back then, to prove it. And that is a fact.

So let me tell you: I happen to think that meeting a payroll is not a bad qualification for being President of the United States of America. (Applause.)

And I might peripherally make the point that the contrast with my opponent couldn't be clearer. He's spent almost his entire adult life in government. And when he wasn't in government, he practiced law and taught law school. And he even worked in the Congress -- for his part-time job. Not exactly the credentials we're looking for these days. (Laughter.)

So it shouldn't surprise you that when it comes to the economy, my opponent thinks government should lead -- all I ask you to do is compare the plans -- directed by bureaucratic planners who couldn't run a business anywhere but into the ground.

Now I believe government can play a role in helping small business; no question. But it is a role of support -- not the lead. Not to put the new bureaucracy of government planners in the business of picking winners and losers -- but to help America do what it does best: to make way for the American entrepreneur, the little guy with the big idea. (Applause.)

So I've put together a program to strengthen small business -- a program that will work, because it understands how

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small businesses work. This is one important part of my comprehensive Agenda for America Renewal.

I'm releasing the full program today in a report I call "Encouraging Entrepreneurial Capitalism." Now, here is the report, and I hope we can make some, at least, available to people here today. But we can get them to you. That's a fancy name for small business savvy America is known for. Some of the ideas are ones that we've been pushing for, for years -- some are new: All of them are solid, sensible ways to strengthen small business.

Now, let me detail -- and some of this is quite detailed -- what my program does:

First, it will help small businesses get started. You see, many new businesses literally begin at home -- when entrepreneurs convert their own "nest egg" into capital. Germany does not tax capital gains at America's punitive rates -- neither does Japan. One of them, I believe, is zero percent; and the other, I believe, is Japan, is on percent. If we want to compete and win, it's time to reward the risk-takers who turn their dreams into tomorrow's jobs. It is time to cut the tax on capital gains. (Applause.)

The liberals continue to insist that that's a break for the rich. It isn't. It is clearly an incentive to start new companies and employ more people. (Applause.) And because you've got to crawl before you can walk, we're also helping small businesses with an aggressive micro-loan program -- from a few hundred dollars up to \$25,000 at the critical early stages when new ventures are, I think we would agree, that at that stage, new businesses are most vulnerable.

That's how we'll help entrepreneurs get their ideas off the ground, get their businesses up and running.

But today, I want to take our efforts one step further. I am proposing a five-year, \$20-billion small-business initiative -- to lift tax and regulatory burdens off the back of small business, and to cut the costs of capital.

We start by knocking down the corporate tax rate on small businesses from 15 to 10 percent. (Applause.) And this new initiative will smooth the way for small business start-ups -- by increasing the small business deduction limit from \$10,000 to \$25,000. And it will allow entrepreneurs to deduct \$2,500 of those start-up costs that most of you remember in the very first year.

My initiative includes steps to simplify tax laws for small businesses -- (applause) -- changes that will result in almost \$5 billion a year in tax relief -- and should allow most small businesses to file a one- or two-page tax return. And finally, it eliminates capital gains on newly-issued small business stock. That will serve as an incentive to create new businesses.

Part three of this small business program is to help existing small businesses find credit. The best idea in the world cannot work without capital. Entrepreneurs simply can't do it alone. They need credit to set up shop and to expand.

Right now, you and I know that the credit crunch has hit small businesses hard. That's why we've been working with bankers and regulators across the country to free up the flow of credit to companies like yours. Our regulatory reform, for example, by the SEC, has made it easier for small businesses to raise capital through stock, through these offerings of stock -- and to help growing firms get from Main Street to Wall Street.

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And I've had the Small Business Administration -- I have Pat Saiki here working overtime to help credit-starved businesses. This year alone, we have increased by more than 50 percent the loan guarantees offered by her agency, the SBA -- more than \$6 billion for men and women with good ideas -- who want to turn those dreams into jobs.

Small business is one of the most effective ways to bring minority Americans into the economic mainstream. That's why later today, Pat Saiki will release our plan to streamline the SBA's Minority Small Business program to bring economic opportunity to entrepreneurs all across America.

And tomorrow, Pat's going to go on to South Florida, to kick off what we call the Green Line program -- a program that we test-marketed up in New England -- to provide a revolving line of credit to help small businesses bridge the gap between production and payment. This Green Line initiative, incidentally, should be especially helpful to small firms that are seeking to get back to "business as usual" after Hurricane Andrew.

Now, fourth, we have got to help small businesses hire new workers and increase productivity. Small businesses -- like every employer in America -- will benefit from education reforms like America 2000, our program from our expanded job training initiatives, from enterprise zones, from legal reform that ends those sky's-the-limit lawsuits that can drive a small business into bankruptcy. We've got to do something about these crazy lawsuits. Even all of that, though, is not enough.

That's why I support aggressive new export promotion programs to help small businesses crack new markets abroad, and create new jobs here at home. You see, in the 21st century, America must be not just a military superpower, but an economic superpower and an export superpower. And for a long time, it was felt that small businesses were too little to sell abroad and compete abroad. That's changed. And we want to facilitate more sales from small business into this vast export market that lies ahead. (Applause.)

Right now, a fraction of America's companies -- 15 percent -- account for 85 percent of America's exports. We've got to open these new markets for America's small businesses -- we've got to tap their explosive potential to make new customers not just down the street, but around the world.

Small business is already helping us pioneer new worlds -- leading the way, for example, in the bio-tech, the bio-technology revolution. That's one key reason that I strongly support a 100% increase in federal research and development funds to help small businesses generate the technologies of tomorrow.

And fifth, we've got to free small businesses from the tangle of red tape and regulation. (Applause.) Vice President Quayle has filled me in on a meeting that he had not long ago with Richard Allen, who runs a furniture manufacturing company over in High Point. Federal reporting rules have gotten so bad that he's had to hire new staff just to read regulations. Now, frankly, that's one kind of job creation we could do without. Filling out federal forms should not be a full-time job.

That's why, in January of this year, I ordered a freeze on federal regulations. You work long and hard for your success, and you should spend your time doing business -- not doing paperwork. (Applause.) And finally, we've got to help small businesses provide for their workers, to help the 15 million Americans who are self-employed. So I want to raise the deduction for health insurance from 25 percent to 100 percent. And I want to reform health insurance -- give small companies the same advantage that bigger companies have

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when they shop for health care coverage, by encouraging small companies to pool together to buy insurance.

We want to create tax incentives to help small businesses offer their employees family leave -- not do what the liberal Congress wants me to do -- slap another mandate on small businesses' back. I'm not going to do that. (Applause.)

I believe in family leave, and I believe our approach to facilitating family leave through tax credits is a far better way than putting new mandates on a guy who is struggling to make ends meet and would have to lay off people to meet the costs of that program. We want to expand small businesses' ability to offer the portable pensions people will need in a dynamic economy.

Taken together, that's a strong package -- a comprehensive package -- to give real-world help, right now, to the small businesses that make this economy grow. You'll notice a lot of it, through tax relief, is removing the burden of government from the back of small business.

Now, I think it's fair to say, and ask dispassionately: What about my opponent? What is his plan for small business? The difference could not be sharper. You see, I see small business as the backbone of the American economy. Mr. Clinton, Governor Clinton sees small business as the goose that lays the Golden Eggs.

Bill Clinton's got big plans for bigger government -- and to pay for it, he's got the tax plan for almost every day of the week: Start with \$150 billion in new taxes. That's not my saying he's doing it; this is what he actually has proposed. And then add a payroll tax for training -- he's already proposed that -- one-and-a-half percent across the board for small businesses -- every business -- and then add a health care plan that will lead to a 7 percent payroll tax to finance the inevitable government takeover of health care.

And I tell you, it's taxing just to talk about this whole program ahead. (Applause.) Somebody said, that taxes my memory. And Clinton says, that's a good idea, let's try it. (Laughter and applause.) Now, I guess -- and yesterday -- nobody believes this, but I did make a subconscious slip. I spoke up when I was going on about the different plans, and I called him "Governor Taxes." And I quickly corrected it.

But now, "Governor Taxes" says, yes, he wants to raise taxes -- and rolls out his standard "soak the rich" rhetoric. You listen to him. But what he won't tell you is this: two out of every three people hit by Governor Clinton's tax hike would be small business owners or family farmers. And these folks are not millionaires -- they are Mom and Pop, Inc., and we cannot let them slap a tax on small business. (Applause.)

Take a look at what Governor Clinton's tax plan would mean for small businesses right here in this state. If you're like the typical small business, you operate with a profit margin of about 2 percent. Some clearly do better; some are struggling to make it 2 percent. Your market is too competitive for you to pass on costs by raising prices. That can happen in large companies that dominate the market. You can't do it as a small businessman. You already feel that you've already cut your costs, your operating costs, to the very bone.

And so when Bill Clinton's new taxes kick in, you have a choice -- a tough choice. His payroll taxes alone amount to 4 percent to 5 percent of your operating expenses. That's your profit margin -- and then some.

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So here's your choice: You can board up the windows -- or you can get out the pink slips. You can continue to operate, but to do so you're going to have to lay off some on your rather small workforce.

Now, I want to invite Governor Clinton and his advisors to follow along for a little "business math." Just over half of all small businesses with between 10 and 20 employees have annual sales of \$500,000 to \$1 million. That's a 2 percent profit margin -- and in the best case -- gives that business a -- say, a \$20,000 profit.

Now, Governor Clinton's new taxes would cost that company between \$46,000 and \$56,000 -- so after you've handed over your profit to the government, the only way to pay the rest of the tax is putting someone out of work, cutting down on your overall payroll account.

And in the case of my example, that's two or three employees -- two or three people out of less than a 20-person company who lose their jobs.

Now, just think about that. Those two or three people aren't just numbers -- they're not some names on a payroll sheet. They're real people -- they're friends and neighbors -- men and women with families to feed and mortgages to pay.

Now, if that two or three still doesn't sound like much, keep this one in mind. In North Carolina alone, 25 percent of the workers -- of all workers -- 638,000 people -- work in companies the same size as the one in my example, companies that will be crippled by Bill Clinton's new taxes.

Across this state, North Carolina has thousands of businesses with less than 10 employees. Grocery stores -- more than 3,000. More than 2,500 small furniture stores. Four out of every five companies in the building trades. Book stores, beauty shops, laundries, video stores and TV repair shops. And the list goes on and on and on. And for them, Bill Clinton's tax plan means one thing: Misery on Main Street. (Applause.)

You see, I don't think these central planners understand this. America is a nation of small businesses -- and to those small businesses, they'll take a big hit under Governor Clinton's tax plan. And my opponent could not do more damage to America's risk-takers, entrepreneurs, if he'd declared war on small businesses. Well, if you're like me, you've got to say: Small business should not be big-government's piggy bank. (Applause.)

All I ask is that you people here and the people across the country take a look for a moment at my approach -- and then contrast that with Governor Clinton's. You see, I want to strengthen small businesses across America by lowering taxes -- increasing R&D.

Bill Clinton wants to tax small businesses and small business owners so he can give big government a raise.

I want to cut red tape, eliminate excessive regulation and reform the ruinous legal system that's crippling this economy and killing small businesses. (Applause.) We really must get these suits under control. We are suing each other too much and caring for each other too little in this country. (Applause.) Now, Bill Clinton wants to saddle these -- or, his plan would saddle these new small businesses with new mandates; the old ones, too, the existing ones. New or old, small businesses, all with new mandates. And he's told the trial lawyers of America he wouldn't take away even one little loophole.

How about health care? Job training? Family leave?

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I want to reform our health care system -- extend coverage to all Americans, and use the markets to drive costs down while keeping quality -- the great quality of American health care up. And as I said before, Bill Clinton's plan will mean a payroll tax and more government control.

I want to give displaced workers a voucher to get the training they want. And Bill Clinton wants to put a payroll tax on employers.

I want to use tax credits to encourage businesses to provide workers family leave. Well, my opponent? You see the pattern -- more government rules, more government red tape.

You know, they sent this family leave bill down to me the other day. They sent it down just for fine timing in terms of politics. And I vetoed it, and I sent it right back. I am for family leave, but I am not for putting further mandates on small business. Let's do it through tax relief, not through running people out of business. (Applause.)

Bill Clinton's got a "Punt, pass and kick" plan: Punt the problem over to business. Pass the costs along. And kick the American worker -- right where he carries his wallet. (Applause.)

Now, you've got a choice in this election. A choice between two different philosophies -- two different directions to take this great country. Bill Clinton puts his faith in the so-called "best and brightest:" In his old Oxford cronies who believes that "government knows best" -- just like the social welfare crowd that pulled Britain down before Maggie Thatcher and John Major pumped some life back in.

Well, I put my faith in the American people -- and I want to see you keep control of the decisions that really matter in life. And when Bill Clinton says "government knows best" -- I say: You know better.

Let me sum it up this way: His plan is wrong for America. And mine is right. (Applause.)

Here's what Bill Clinton and the "government first" crowd just really don't get. They don't get it. They don't understand: Government can print money -- but it simply cannot create wealth. The great ideas that make this economy grow don't begin in the marbled halls of some federal building back in Washington, D.C. More great ideas -- more of our gross domestic product, our GDP -- begins at a basement workbench, at a computer on someone's kitchen table, with the savings you set aside to start a business of your own.

And, America -- don't let them teach the American people, particularly the young, that America is a nation in decline. We are simply not. We are the most respected leader in the world -- militarily, and economically. (Applause.) And in spite of the economic difficulties we've had and are enduring, America -- believe me -- is the envy of the world: not because its government is great -- but because its people are great. Because the American people are builders and dreamers who build.

We need a government that understands that fundamental fact. And my program -- my Agenda for American Renewal -- will make the next American Century a new American Century, a time of peace and prosperity for all.

Thank you once again for this warm North Carolina welcome -- and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Memphis, Tennessee)

For Immediate Release

September 22, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MEMPHIS WELCOME

Craigmont High School
Memphis, Tennessee

7:45 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you very much. What a wonderful welcome.

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. And may I salute at first Congressman Sundquist. You're lucky, you've got a great member of the United States Congress. (Applause.) And Barbara Bush off on some other part of the campaign trail sends her love to Martha Sundquist, the great wife of Don. And may I say how pleased I am to have been introduced by one of the truly great members of the Cabinet, a man who served this country with such distinction, a national leader for education, Governor Lamar Alexander. What a class act. (Applause.)

And may I thank and salute Dr. House, the Superintendent of the schools here in Memphis; Dr. Langsdon, the Shelby County GOP and B/Q -- the Bush-Quayle Chairman in '92. And may I single out Dr. Walters -- (applause) -- I didn't know kids clapped that much for a principal, but you're right, she is outstanding. (Applause.) And also Jakene Ashford, who greeted me earlier, the student body president. You've got a class-act president of this school, too. (Applause.)

You know, I left the White House at 6:40 a.m. this morning. We started out on the campaign trail in Springfield, Missouri. And this is the sixth state we've visited in just a little over 12 hours. But, you know, I can't think of a better place to finish this day than Memphis, Tennessee, home of the blues -- (applause) -- home of the wet and dry ribs, the old South and the new pyramid. And, of course, the home of Elvis himself. (Applause.) Rest assured I'm talking about Elvis Presley, not Elvis Clinton. (Applause.)

You know, for the past few weeks I've been all across America stumping for the economic ideas I believe in. We call it the Agenda for American Renewal. And I want to open new markets for American products, create jobs for American workers -- (applause) -- because -- don't listen to the other side -- Americans never retreat; we always compete and we always win. That is the American spirit. (Applause.)

If you listen to that Clinton-Gore ticket, you think everything is wrong. And this morning new figures came out. Housing starts are up, the largest increase in a year and a half. (Applause.) Inflation is under control. Interest rates remain low. And I believe the stage is set after a long, begrudging anemic growth set for an economic recovery if we make the right choices in November. I need four more years to finish the job. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: That's what we want.

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You know, the choice before the American people is really clear: Governor Clinton has already started with his program. He wants more government and higher taxes. That is bad for America.

AUDIENCE: Boooooo!

THE PRESIDENT: And I believe in something completely different, and so does Don. I believe that government is too big and spends too much of your money, and I want to cut taxes and provide incentives to get this economy moving again. (Applause.)

You know, small business will be the horse pulling the wagon on our recovery economy. And so I want to give small businesses relief from taxation and regulation and litigation. (Applause.)

You know, parents don't coach Little League for fear, people don't -- doctors don't deliver babies for fear. Today Americans spend up to \$200 billion a year on lawyers and lawsuits. And I think it's crazy. As a nation we've got to sue each other less and care for each other more. (Applause.)

But as I -- I have one wish above all others, though, and as I look out at the young faces in this audience I think of the potential of our great country and of the challenge of our schools. And your great Governor, Lamar, puts our challenge in education this way: when the fifth graders graduate from high school they will have changed so much we will barely recognize them. But for our young people to succeed our schools will have to change so much that we barely recognize them either.

And that's why I am so excited about America 2000 movement -- the program to literally revolutionize education in this country. (Applause.) And I am excited about our new American schools, about our higher standard for students, about freeing teachers from government bureaucracy, and about giving every parent the choice to choose the best school for their child to learn in. (Applause.)

And so one of the reasons I came here to this wonderful institution is to say thanks to Memphis, because you are the big part, a major part of America 2000. You are a leader in a revolution that is changing America from the schoolyard right on up. (Applause.) And so to the parents and the teachers and the business leaders and the community activists, I say thanks for caring about the kids; thanks for being loyal to Memphis's future.

And of course, there's another reason I came here today. As one or two of you may have heard, there's an election coming up in November. And I have been traveling all across America making my case for our renewal agenda. And while I've been outlining my positive ideas for the future, Bill Clinton has been chosen to focus his energy on the past. And literally -- you go back now -- a lot of you are students about government and politics -- month after month, for the last 11 months, Governor Clinton has persisted in attacking me, distorting my record. And this week he unveiled the campaign's first negative commercial.

He's been saying, oh, wait until the Republicans go negative. It is the Clinton-Gore ticket that has aired the first national negative ads.

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: Now, I have a confession to make. I haven't talked much about his record because I think the American people would rather hear a positive discussion about what we'll do to renew America. (Applause.) But I will also admit that I'm

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a little tired of having my own record distorted, and I think it's time we don't just listen to what he says, but take a look at what Governor Clinton does. (Applause.)

And that is what I've been doing today. That's exactly what I've been doing today, from Missouri to Oklahoma to Texas to Louisiana to Mississippi; and now in the great state of Tennessee, pointing out the facts -- (applause) -- pointing out the facts, no exaggeration -- about Governor Clinton's record on economic fairness, on civil rights or lack thereof; on the environment; on health care. And over and over, you see the same pattern emerging -- Governor Clinton promises the moon to America while the sky is falling in on Arkansas. (Applause.)

And regrettably -- regrettably for the young people in that state -- the wonderful young kids across the way in Arkansas -- education is no different. In his new book, candidate Clinton says America has failed to provide its children with either the best education or adequate protection from violence. And I disagree. I am proud of what we've done to promote America 2000. (Applause.) And I am especially proud of the leadership of that great son of Tennessee, Lamar Alexander. (Applause.)

And, yes, sure, Governor Clinton -- candidate Clinton -- is critical of our record. But what has Governor Clinton done? And here are the facts. Let me give it to you. You're not going to like it, on behalf of your friends in Arkansas, but here's the record. Here are the facts, pure and simple.

During the 1980s, Arkansas fell from 47th to 48th place in percentage of adults with a high school diploma. Arkansas's rankings on its primary college entrance exam, the ACT, have declined. Twenty-eight states use the ACT as their primary college entrance test. The New York Times reported that in 1979, Arkansas ranked 20th out of those 28. In its latest ranking, it's down to 25th out of 28. While we're going up in the nation, he's going down in the state of Arkansas.

AUDIENCE: Booo.

THE PRESIDENT: And it is not fair to the young people there. It is not fair to the young families across the way. And we know that more than three-quarters of Arkansas high school graduates require remedial instruction when they get to college. Think about that. Three out of four Arkansas college students spend their first year of college relearning what they missed in high school. That is not fair to the families of Arkansas.

And when it comes to the percentage of adults with a college degree, Governor Clinton's Arkansas still ranks 50th -- 50th in the entire nation.

Now, these are facts, pure and simple. And you can see there's a grand canyon by what candidate Clinton says about improving education and what Governor Clinton has actually done.

And if you believe as I do -- if you believe education is important, I ask you to look beyond the rhetoric. Look at the record. And I have fought for higher standards. I have fought for less regulation. I have fought to reinvent our schools. And I have fought for parental choice. These ideas are not popular in all places. But if you care about education, I think you must look at the two candidates and ask yourself a simple question: When it comes to reforming our schools, which candidate will tell America what it wants to hear, and which will tell America what it needs to hear? (Applause.)

Enough talk -- enough talk of politics for the day. It's been a long, long day. It's been a wonderful day. And as

you can imagine, campaigns can be grueling. And once in a while I'll get home, you know, after midnight, after being attacked in the press and the craziest mood I've every seen out there. And Barbara will ask me this simple question: You know, we've got a good life; we've got a wonderful family. Why do you put up with it? And I'll tell you why I put up with it, why I want four more years: I want it for the children, for the bright-faced kids I see on their parents' shoulders at rallies all across the nation. (Applause.) For the young people right here tonight. (Applause.)

Don Sundquist tells me that there are six young people from Russia with us this evening. (Applause.) And they're part of an exchange program. And think about it. Think about how 10 years ago such a program might never be possible. Think about how five years ago, these very kids sat halfway around the world knowing nothing of our world, but fearing, as our own families, our own kids did, that the world they knew might be destroyed in a moment with the mere press of a finger on a button. Well, that terrible, awful, nightmare has receded from our children's minds. And today -- (applause) -- and today these Russian kids can join with Memphis kids and they can read stories together and play basketball and laugh at the same jokes and share the same sweet memories and think of all that has happened to make this possible.

In another time, in another age, Thomas Paine wrote these simple words: "We have the power to begin the world again." Well, we have begun our world again. And our new world is a world of hope, it's a world of promise, a world of peace, a world of unprecedented opportunity. And I want our children to realize the magic of this new world, to believe in miracles, just as we can look at our Russian friends here tonight and say "Miracles have finally come true." (Applause.)

And if we can renew the world -- and I take great pride in the fact that our administration has literally changed the world, made peace a reality and not a dream; made democracy on the march, made tranquility around the world something real and something we can touch and feel -- and if we can change the world, then I have no doubt that we can renew America. And we can strengthen our economy, we can reinvent our schools.

And there is much work to be done, and I believe I am the leader to do it. (Applause.) And that is why I am running for reelection, and that is why I ask for your support. And don't ever let the Governor from across the way convince you that we are a nation in decline. We are the most respected, freest, greatest nation on the face of the Earth, and I want to lead you for four more years. (Applause.)

Thank you, and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

8:02 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Basking Ridge, New Jersey)

For Immediate Release

September 18, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO EMPLOYEES OF AT&T

AT&T Corporate Headquarters
Basking Ridge, New Jersey

2:54 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated and thank you very much, Dr. Mary Stewart. Thanks for the welcome. (Applause.) Thank you very much, and good afternoon. What a wonderful introduction by such a wonderfully experienced person. Dr. Stewart, thank you very, very much. And good afternoon to everyone.

I want to first recognize she who came up with me on the airplane today, Secretary Lynn Martin. She is doing a great job for this country as Secretary of Labor. I'll have more to say about her own labors in the context of this speech. But I want to thank her for being with us. She is a former member of Congress. She is now leading this enormous department and doing a first-class job.

As to Tom Kean, your former Governor, my longtime friend, I couldn't be more pleased. He is heading up our campaign effort here. And I can't think of any better formula for success in this state, because of his own record, the respect with which he's held. It is just a wonderful thing. And Barbara and I are just delighted to have him at our side in this fight.

Another one is Congressman Dean Gallo, who has been a leader for me and who's helping this state and this community a great deal in the House of Representatives. If we had more like him, we wouldn't hear everybody yelling at me, "Clean House" everyplace I went. (Applause.) So that was nice.

And of course, I'm grateful to the Chairman, Bob Allen, and to everyone at AT&T. I think it's a good thing that you provide a forum for political people to bring their views to a community. A lot of communities duck it, they dodge it. Then they end up writing me letters griping about how things are. This one is out front. Bob Allen has always been willing to take a position. And he stands for something, and so do the people that work with him. And so I want to express my thanks to not only those that are in this room, but those that might be plugged into some fancy, high-tech AT&T communications system around here. (Applause.) But the company does good work and certainly is a great corporate citizen of this wonderful community.

I want to thank the Speaker who's here, Chuck Haytaian. He is leading the New Jersey legislature. All states are caught up in enormous battles. And I'm very, very proud of him.

With me today also are two women that came up with us from Washington. One of them -- both of them standing there. Connie Horner is an Assistant to the President in terms of personnel. She gave up an enormous job as number two in the largest department in the federal government. And she's over now

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working with us in the White House in charge of all of our personnel. You all know the size of the federal government -- so, believe me, that's a major assignment. And I'm delighted she came.

And next to her, some of you may know our household word, our household symbol now -- Marlin Fitzwater. Well, Marlin's able Deputy is Judy Smith, standing over next to Connie. And you may have seen her on television fencing with, or supporting the press, depending what kind of mood she's in -- (laughter) -- as we go around this country. But I just am so pleased that they're here with us today.

You know, I remember standing in the Rose Garden just last year and awarding a prize, Environment and Conservation Challenge Award, to AT&T for your world-class work in reducing air pollutants. It's great to be here and see firsthand the folks who made it happen. That was a national honor, well deserved by you and those who work with you.

But there's something also sad, and Tom touched on it, about being in this neck of New Jersey today, and I'd like to just take a minute or two to explain why.

You lost one of your most remarkable citizens on Wednesday, when Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick died, at the age of 82. She was an incredible person. And many portrayed her as the "pipe-smoking grandmother." But she preferred "hard-working grandmother." She said it had the same number of syllables -- typical of Millicent. (Laughter.) And she spent her whole life climbing obstacles and helping others do the same.

Yes, she was born to a life of privilege. But in the early '30s, her marriage split up and she moved to New York alone, deep in debt, with a couple of kids. And she wanted to get a job selling stockings at a department store, but they turned her away -- she hadn't earned a high school diploma. She stuck with it -- finally rising to be an editor of Vogue Magazine.

Her kids grown up, Millicent came home to New Jersey and started to get involved in town politics. She was the first member -- woman member -- of the Bernardsville Borough Council. She ran then for the State Assembly and won, and served as State Consumer Affairs Director.

And then at 64, when most people are settling down, Millicent was just starting to make this fantastic reputation in Congress. I was honored to know her very, very well indeed. She helped run my campaign here in this state in 1980. She was deeply principled in politics for all the right reasons, to fulfill a deep and burning desire to achieve justice for all people.

Her commitment to the underdogs of the world was matched only by her wit. Once a state legislator said to her: "I've always thought of women as kissable, cuddly and smelling good." And Millicent replied: "That's the way I feel about men, too." (Laughter.) "I only hope for your sake that you haven't been disappointed as often as I have." (Laughter and applause.) Well, who but Millicent? Enough said. (Applause.)

Well, Millicent Fenwick lived during interesting times. She saw a world transformed outside our borders, and she helped lead that transformation. You remember her assignment after she left the Congress was to go off into a marvelous agency helping people in the food area. But while these remarkable changes took place overseas, here in America a quieter and even

more profound revolution has been unfolding. And Millicent was a part of that, too.

I'm talking about a move toward human justice at its most basic level -- the movement toward equality of the sexes. A movement that cuts across social and ideological boundaries -- and touches all our lives. Of course, before we all get carried away with the congratulations, we have to admit -- and Lynn and I were talking about this coming up here on the plane -- that we have a ways to go. I did not come here today just as one more man, but I'm here as a President whose policies affect your lives.

And last week I unveiled -- and Dr. Stewart very generously talked about this -- my Agenda for American Renewal. Answers to the questions that Americans are asking around their kitchen tables.

And the Agenda is a comprehensive strategy to guarantee that by the early part of the 21st Century, America will enjoy the world's first \$10-trillion economy. And I have several priorities, most are well underway. And I want to open new markets and new customers for the products you produce. I want to create new schools for a new age. And I want to sharpen businesses' competitive edge -- with relief from taxation, regulation and certainly from litigation. (Applause.) And I want to reach out to all Americans; and I want to dramatically reduce the size and the scope of the federal government.

And that's my agenda. But today, I'm here to talk about a special priority on my agenda -- providing economic security for American working men and women. The first order of business, as I said, is to admit that there is still unfinished business. Women work as hard as men and still earn less. And that's not acceptable. And most working women do more than equal work -- on the job, and at home. And that's not acceptable, either.

And many women are trying to do it all alone. Look, divorce happens. And I know it from my own family -- my own daughter. And I've seen what single mothers are up against -- the kind of pressures, trying to do 36 hours of work in a 24-hour day.

And as a nation, we must confront these challenges head-on. Not talk, not slogans, not political rhetoric -- we need government policies that help men and women meet their responsibilities at home. And that means child care. It means family leave policies. It means child support enforcement. It means cheaper health care.

Both candidates in this election are talking about these issues. But we offer entirely different solutions.

The other side puts their faith in government -- government mandates. On issue after issue, their solution comes down to giving more power to government. And I put my faith in you; I want to give you the power to help yourself. The other side's ideas sound very enticing. But you have to ask: Will they work for me? Will they make a difference in my life? And in thinking about this, I refer you to a story about William II, the Emperor of Germany. And he saw himself as a man's man -- which I guess means he was the kind of Kaiser who, when he got lost, would refuse to ask anybody for directions. (Laughter and applause.)

Well, the Kaiser got in his head that he could design a better battleship. And so he drew up plans and sent them to the naval architect for him to study.

And the architect said the Kaiser's battleship would

be absolutely the finest one on earth. It would be as fast as a speedboat. Its range and its power would overwhelm the enemy. And everybody on board would feel like they were lounging in their living room.

There was only one teeny, tiny problem: If the boat were built, and actually placed in the water -- it would sink.

Well, I'm afraid a lot of policies like that have been coming out of Capitol Hill the past few years do that. All are designed to use government to achieve great things on your behalf. But look closely, and I suggest that they just might not float in water.

And let me give you a few examples. You decide for yourself.

This week, Congress sent me what's called -- "family leave" legislation. The bill has the noble goal of allowing a mom or dad to leave a job in order to take care of a new baby, maybe care for a sick parent. The bill would require companies to keep the job open for three months until the employee could come back to work.

Now, I believe family leave is necessary, and our families need it. And a lot of companies are providing it. This one right here does -- AT&T is one. And you should be proud of your farsighted leadership on this. But the bill Congress sent me this week would force every company with more than 50 employees to provide family leave. And if companies don't foot the bill, they break the law. And, now, that's one approach. And I offer another one. I want to give all businesses incentives in the form of credits -- tax credits -- to offer family leave.

It's an election year, so congressional leaders have sent me their mandatory approach -- they've been sitting on it all year long, I might add. Now, with two weeks to go in this session of the Congress -- or three -- sent it to me and dared me not to sign it. And I want to explain why I can't support their approach.

First of all, our economy is sluggish. And here in New Jersey and all across the country it's sluggish. And think of the ad agencies, the printing companies -- other suppliers in your neighborhoods and people that you work with every day. They're still cutting budgets and payrolls; and I don't want to load on more federal mandates that will force them to lay off people.

And you might say, you're protecting the rich. But, you know, entrepreneurs aren't all rich. In fact, more and more people are taking their pensions and starting their own small businesses. And by the year 2000, women will run the majority of these businesses.

And here's another point to consider: You and I know, the best benefit packages often come from the largest employers. They're the ones that can provide the benefits -- small companies are usually where parents have to make the tough choice between work and family.

But, the other side's approach exempts the smallest employers. And my approach offers incentives to those companies, and it will cover the 40 percent of American workers who won't be covered by the other side's plan.

And one more thing. Think of the impact mandated family leave has on hiring decisions. I know it's not supposed to happen, but how many employers will think, why not hire a man instead of a woman? He won't leave to have a child. He won't leave to care for his family. And this is illegal, and we must enforce the law. But mandated family leave could encourage this subtle kind of discrimination.

And I don't think you'll hear these kinds of details discussed in the media. But I'm going to take a stand. Because to me, it's not worth putting politics ahead of progress.

Let me talk just about another job-related issue -- something that's called the "glass ceiling". Today, companies are promoting some women in greater numbers, but not fast enough. And so a lot of talented women are going into the businesses for themselves.

This isn't just a corporate problem, we're seeing the same thing happen in government. And I'm proud of our record in promoting women. But I'm especially proud that these talented women -- that we've put talented women in important economic positions -- running the Department of Labor, running the Department of Commerce, or the Small Business Administration or handling all of our trade negotiations. The women I work with tell me they don't want any special opportunity -- they just want the right to succeed or fail -- to be measured by the same standard as men.

We want to see the Lynn Martins of corporate America succeed, too. That's why this Secretary of Labor, Lynn Martin has made shattering the glass ceiling a top priority. She's making sure that companies who receive your tax dollars -- through federal contracts -- make career opportunities available to women.

Let's talk child care for a moment. You see a difference in philosophies here. Congress wanted a government-run child care program, a mandated program emanating from some subcommittee and then working its way through the Congress. And I heard from parents who wanted the right to choose the best child care for their children. It might be a public school. It might be a church or a synagogue, an aunt's house. And the point is, you want to make the choice, not be told where to go by some county clerk. (Applause.)

Congress wanted to give the money directly to county agencies, and limit the family's alternatives. And I fought for giving vouchers directly to parents, so you can choose the best care, regardless of who provides it. And our way was better, and on this one we won. Now we're having a similar debate -- major national debate -- over health care. Costs are rising at more than ten percent a year. It's putting pressure on families. It's the fastest-growing item in this enormous federal budget.

And once again, the other side wants the government alone to solve the problem -- either by directly taking over our health care system, or by indirectly getting involved in setting prices and mandating benefits. Now, that idea sounds appealing to some, but it will end up meaning longer lines and less flexibility for you and for your families.

And I offer an entirely different approach, sitting up there now in the United States Congress, awaiting action. I want to give companies incentives to provide coverage and use competition to drive down costs. I want to get at the root cause of raising prices, including skyrocketing malpractice insurance. And I want to let small businesses pool their coverage, insurance coverage, so they can get the same price breaks as larger companies do. My plan will lower costs through competition, extend coverage to the poorest of the poor

-- insurance coverage -- extend coverage to 30 million Americans who cannot afford it today, and build on the strengths of our system -- which already provides the highest quality care in the world. Again,

You see people coming from all over the world to come to America for health care. Why? because we have the highest quality care. And if you take it out of the private sector and you put it in the public sector, you can guarantee that it will no longer be that beacon for quality. I believe my approach is right, I believe it's right for the citizens of this country, and I believe it's right when it comes to a philosophy of government. (Applause.)

Now, here's something that really bothers me. Five million women today in America are entitled to child support from ex-husbands. Now, you know how many of those women get all they are entitled to? About half. About half. And I think it's outrageous that a father in Pennsylvania can be shopping for a new Corvette, while his ex-wife in New Jersey is struggling to shop for food. (Applause.) And I think it's time that the long arm of the law taps every deadbeat dad on the shoulder and says: Pay up, or else. (Applause.)

And there's a lot more in this agenda. We've made it so you can take a pension from job to job. Our health care proposal, the health care goes from job to job. We've provided incentives for student aid. Today one out of two students at a college or university gets a federal loan or grant. And the purpose is the same: to protect working men and women. To make it easier to raise a family.

But listing the exact details of every program isn't as important as the philosophy behind them. A philosophy that says: ultimately, the only way to make people more secure is to give you more power -- give you, the individual, more power over the decisions that affect your jobs and family budgets.

And if we're going to use the power of government to move us forward, we need to use the power of government to help, not hinder. Not to add new barriers to opportunity, but to remove old ones. I started by talking about the economic challenge before America, and I'd like to close the same way.

Because, ultimately, that's what this election is about. Who has the ideas that can help America win the global economic competition. When you stop to consider all the challenges we face in this nation, let's not ignore some of the advantages.

Here in America, we send more of our students to higher education -- more than any other nation. Twice as many as Germany, and more than twice as many as Japan. More than half of these American students are women. And, basically, we have twice as many educated people as our competitors. It's because America is the only nation that really tries to base opportunity on character and talent alone. (Applause.)

The changes of the past few decades have improved the lives of all Americans. But more than that, they've improved our society. They've made us stronger, as we face the stiff challenges ahead. The policies that I've outlined today are designed to build on our strengths. To help us take advantage of the talents of every American. To strengthen all our families so that we can make America safer and more secure.

I have seven granddaughters. Maybe I better rephrase that: Barbara and I have seven granddaughters. (Laughter.) I don't want to be killed when I get down to Maryland. (Laughter.) And the oldest is 15 years old. And the world that she enters today will be

much different than the world Barbara and I entered many years ago. And if my granddaughter wants to go out to Texas and start an oil company, she can do it. And if she wants to write the Vogue Book of Etiquette, she can do that, too.

And if she chooses another line of work, if she chooses to stay home and raise her kids, well, I'll give her love and support. And she won't have to answer to anyone about the choices she's made. And if she wants to try and run for President, she can do that, too. And I hope she does. (Laughter and applause.)

And I'm very glad that my grandchildren face these opportunities, but they will only be able to take advantage of them if America remains the most dynamic place on this great earth. I think the path to economic security lies with less government, less regulation, more freedom and respect for families and individuals.

And so what I offer in this election is simple. A new path to a renewed America, based on some tried and true values. And that's how we're going to build a safer, more secure America for all of us -- and, certainly, for our kids, your kids and my grandkids.

And thank you for listening. (Applause.) And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

END

3:30 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Englewood, Colorado)

For Immediate Release

September 15, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO 114TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

Salt Palace Convention Center
Salt Lake City, Utah

9:03 A.M. MDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all so much. And may I first thank General Ensslin, for being my host here today, and all of you for that wonderful reception. And, of course, I want to single out Utah's Governor, Norm Bangerter, who's just done a superb job for this -- (applause) -- I see we have some Utah Guard folks here. And while you're clapping, Jim Hanson, a member of the United States Congress, doing a great job for our country. (Applause.)

And may I salute all the leaders of the National Guard.

I understand -- with some embarrassment, I understand that some of you may have had to go through room changes to -- (laughter) -- sorry about that. I really feel badly about that. And I apologize for any inconvenience. But I really am very, very pleased to be here with you.

I was thinking of giving a political speech, a real stemwinder with catchy sound bites, the usual biting insults. Then I got to thinking -- I'm not going to do that -- you've already sacrificed enough for your country. (Laughter and applause.)

Instead, I'd like to talk about a more serious subject -- America's national defense and really our place in the world. I firmly believe that just because we face stiff challenges at home -- and we do -- it doesn't mean that America can pull in its wings and ignore the world outside our borders. Think of the world of change that we've seen the past few years. Today, the Berlin Wall, the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet Union itself -- Soviet empire -- all are gone, swept away by the most powerful idea known to man: the undeniable desire of every individual to be free. Remember the communists' claims that history was on their side? Well, today, the "dominoes" all fall in democracy's way.

We must recognize these events for what they were: a vindication of our ideals -- but also, a victory for the men and women who fought for freedom. (Applause.) Because this triumph didn't just happen. Imperial communism didn't just fall -- it was pushed. And the National Guard was pushing every inch of the way. (Applause.)

From Concord and Lexington Green to the sands of Desert Storm, Guardsmen or their forefathers have served with distinction in every major war that America ever fought.

In August of 1990, within days of my decision to draw a line in the sand -- more than 4,000 volunteers from National Guard units all across America were activated, airborne and on the way to the Persian Gulf -- the first of 767 National

Guard units called up during Desert Storm. And when American troops rolled across the Iraqi border -- and I'll never forget that day -- the National Guard was among the very first to cross.

Here at home, when riots ripped South Central, ripped Los Angeles, the California Guard answered the call -- 2,000 in just the first six hours. You went into the streets to protect the innocent against the outlaws, to restore the peace.

Late last month, when Hurricane Andrew roared in -- again, the National Guard answered the call -- delivering 215 tons of food, water, and supplies to Miami in the first 24 hours alone, helping bring hot meals and comfort to people who had lost their homes. And Guardsmen are working right now to bring comfort to the island of Kauai.

You've all seen the pictures of people hugging the Guardsmen in their fatigues. You know one thing for sure, it wasn't to thank them for their cooking. But nevertheless -- (laughter) -- what the Guard is doing in Homestead and Hawaii and in Lafayette Parish is a God-send. It shows us the true meaning of service, of leadership, of love of country.

This is an important task for which the Guard has, and will continue to have, the primary responsibility -- and where we only turn to our active forces for back-up. Indeed, that happened in the Miami situation, as you know. It's happening now out in Kauai as well.

We need to know that the Guard is there. There for the crises at home -- there for the challenges abroad. There when a nation in need looks to you to protect life and liberty.

As all of you know, our Cold War victory means a downsizing in our national defenses -- active, Reserve and Guard alike. But we remain committed to our total force concept: the smallest standing army consistent with our national security, and yet large enough to deal with any likely threat. And for that total force policy to be effective a strong Army and Air National Guard are essential. (Applause.)

Let me be clear -- maintaining strong, capable Reserve and Guard forces will remain essential to our military strategy. You are part of the flexible forces we will need to meet our new military challenges. In fact, we can move certain units or functions from active forces to the reserves to lower costs. And at the same time, we recognize the need to be sensitive to the demands placed on individual National Guardsmen, Reservists and really to their families. As true citizen-soldiers, our Guardsmen must devote time to their families, civilian occupations or education. If we intrude upon you for every trouble, we may find it hard to keep the very best soldiers that characterize the Guard today.

I know that my opponent will be following me today. So you can expect to hear stories about my administration's cutback of the Guard. Of course, the new National Guard will be smaller -- just as our active forces are being reduced. Anyone who tells you different is simply not leveling with you. But as long as I am President of the United States, the National Guard will be well-trained and well-equipped. And as Commander-in-Chief I can assure you, we will never short-change the National Guard. (Applause.)

Yes, I'm cutting back defense spending with the end of the Cold War -- through orderly and deliberate downsizing. But don't forget the facts. My opponent proposes to cut nearly \$60 billion -- beyond which my civilian and military experts believe is responsible -- \$60 billion more than the cuts that I have proposed. Now, let me say this: You cannot cut \$60 billion more from defense and not touch the armed forces. You simply cannot do it.

We have to be very careful with our defense downsizing. At other times in our history, political leaders rushed to carve apart our military -- we remember that -- leaving only a hollow shell. And then other Americans paid a big price -- paid even with their lives for those mistakes.

The defense budget is more than a piggy bank for folks who want to get busy beating the swords into pork barrels. (Applause.) The President has got to stand up for an America second to none. And he must be able to say: America is safe -- as long as America stays strong.

I learned the value of military strength the hard way -- and some of you might identify with this -- commanders of the Guard units. I learned it the hard way -- by sending our troops into battle. And I am proud of our accomplishments -- thankful that I've been able to give the order so many Presidents longed to give, for many of our nuclear forces to "stand down" from alert. Proud to be the first President in 50 years to lead an America that's not at war, hot or cold. But the fact is: For all the great gains we've made for freedom; for all the peace of mind that we've secured for the young people in this country -- the world remains a dangerous place.

The Soviet bear may be extinct -- but there are still plenty of wolves in the world. Dictators with missiles narco terrorists trying to take over whole countries. Ethnic wars. Regional flashpoints. Madmen we can't allow to get a finger on the nuclear trigger. And you have my word on this: I will never allow a lone wolf to endanger American security. We must remain strong. (Applause.)

No, our work in the world did not end with our victory in the Cold War. Our task is to guard against the crises that haven't caught fire, the wars that are waiting to happen, the threats that will come with little or no warning. I make this promise: As long as I am President, our services will remain the best trained, the best equipped, the best led fighting forces in the world. This is the way we guarantee the peace. (Applause.)

And let me add something else that's really close to my heart. Even as we respond to the new challenges, we must never forget those who flew and fought in face of the old. The one hero we must never forget, is the hero who has never come home. And I pledge to every American family awaiting word of a loved one: We will continue to demand the fullest possible accounting for every POW and MIA. (Applause.) And we will not have normal relations with Hanoi until we are satisfied on that account. (Applause.)

I speak of these matters this morning to this very special group because they are important -- they're important to America, they're important to the world.

Like every nation, America today is challenged by a global economic transition. I have outlined my Agenda For American Renewal -- it's a comprehensive series of actions that we must take to match our military supremacy -- by remaining the world's leading export superpower and economic superpower.

Yet I hope that in our zeal to concentrate on these problems here at home, we do not forget America's unique role abroad. Other nations still look to us for leadership -- military leadership, moral leadership, and economic leadership.

And as one who has held this office for four years -- I hope that when evaluating the two men who want this job -- Americans will not ignore the President's role as Commander-in-Chief.

There's been a lot of controversy swirling around about service to country, about using influence to avoid the military. And I've read a great deal of speculation saying that I was going to come out here and use this forum to attack Governor Clinton. I want to tell you, I do feel very strongly about certain aspects of the controversy swirling around Governor Clinton, but I didn't come here to attack him. I came to defend and support the National Guard and those who serve in it. (Applause.)

Four years ago, Dan Quayle was savagely attacked and ridiculed by the national press for going into the National Guard. His critics attacked the guard as a haven for draft dodgers.

Those critics are wrong. Dan Quayle spent six years in the Indiana National Guard. (Applause.) He was not sent to Vietnam, but some of his fellow Guardsmen were -- and four of them never came back.

No candidate has ever been attacked more unmercifully than Vice President Quayle, but he stood his ground, and he answered every question calmly and with candor. He told the truth. This is service to country, and I am very proud of the Vice President, and I am very proud of the National Guard. (Applause.)

But why do these questions even matter? Why are they part of our national debate? They matter, because despite all our problems at home, we can never forget, that we ask our Presidents to lead the military -- to bear the awful authority of deciding to send your sons or daughters in harm's way.

I remember the night of Desert Storm. Barbara and I had Dr. Billy Graham over for dinner there in the White House. And our family -- we still say the blessing at night. So we said a little prayer together, enjoyed some conversation -- but my mind, I will confess, was thousands of miles away.

And after dinner -- I don't know if you can picture the White House Complex -- I went down the elevator in the White House and then walked across by the Rose Garden over to the Oval Office, waiting to hear the results of the initial strike. And I remember walking along the Rose Garden -- and thinking. I wondered -- I was wondering if our military estimates were really accurate, General McPeak having briefed me in detail -- an amazing briefing of what he was confident the Air Force could do -- wondering if it was accurate -- if our smart bombs were as smart as Tony McPeak and other experts told me they were. But mostly, I wondered how our young men and women in the sands of Kuwait felt -- and about their parents back home.

And in the months after that fateful night, I received letters from proud parents, and I tried to read as many as I could. But I lingered longest on the occasional note from the parent whose son or daughter had not returned.

This summer, I got a letter from a woman in Illinois. And her son had been lost in a helicopter accident, no body ever discovered. And on the day she received word, she received a letter from her son. And he said: "Mom and Dad, don't worry about me -- I love the Marines and I love my country." And this July, the mother wrote to me: "As a Gold Star mother it is difficult to accept my son's death, but he is alive in my heart. And I could be bitter with the military and God, but my son would never want me to." (Applause.)

I know the commanders here know I feel a little emotional about this. But you get letters like these -- and you can almost see the faces -- faces of youth and innocence. And you feel the weight of the job. Sending a son or daughter into combat, believe me, is the toughest part of the presidency.

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Most Presidents never learn that lesson because, thank God, most don't have to ask others to put their lives on the line. But every President might.

And does this mean that if you have never seen the awful horror of battle -- that you can never be Commander-In-Chief? Of course not. Not at all. But it does mean, that we must hold our Presidents to the highest standard, because they might have to decide -- if our sons and daughters -- should knock early on death's door.

I hope that I am reelected President this November. And like my opponent, I believe I'm best qualified. But I wish for something else -- even more. I hope that whomever is elected to this office, at whatever time in the future, he doesn't have to face the awful decision that I had to face twice. And I hope that the next four years will pass -- indeed, I hope that the next four decades will pass -- without the blood of young Americans being shed on foreign shores.

And today, we can say this future is possible, but no one can say for sure it will happen. And so I commit to you, the proud members and families of the National Guard -- that as long as I am fortunate to hold this office, I will fight for a strong defense, for a strong America, for an America that -- despite our troubles at home -- remains the last beacon of hope and strength around the world.

The Guard has always been part of America's world leadership, and I know you'll continue to help us lead -- in this new world that we have forged together.

Thank you all, and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

9:23 A.M. MDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Colville, Washington)

For Immediate Release

September 14, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO EMPLOYEES OF VAAGEN BROTHERS LUMBER COMPANY

Vaagen Brothers Lumber Company
Colville, Washington

1:09 P.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. What a wonderful welcome. (Applause.) And may I thank your very special Senator, Senator Slade Gorton, for that introduction, and much more for all he does for this great state back in Washington, D.C. You have an outstanding Senator. (Applause.) And thanks to Dwayne Vaagen, and all of the rest of you for letting us visit here today. I know we've disrupted not only this wonderful facility, but a lot of things around town. And I'm grateful to the Mayor, Mayor Scott, and the police officials and everybody else who assist in the planning and the success of a visit like this.

I'll tell you, I really enjoyed flying in here in that helicopter. And for those of you who haven't been up there, there are a lot of trees around here. So don't listen to some of the critics -- (applause.)

You know, last week out in Detroit, I released an Agenda for American Renewal. I see a sign back there on that. And the agenda was based on a fundamental premise: that the challenges America faces -- foreign, domestic and economic, and, yes, environmental -- are connected, they're linked. And the solution to one cannot be divorced from the solution to the other. We need an integrated approach.

We need to bring this integrated approach to the relationship between the economy and the environment. Environmental protection and economic growth must go hand in hand, they can't be divorced from each other. This morning down in southern California, I spoke about ways to bring them together. But frankly, I believe that when it comes to the Endangered Species Act and its application here in the Northwest, the balance has simply been lost.

Like many of you, I love to hunt and hike and fish. And I love the outdoors. (Applause.) And like you, I have learned through a lifetime of experience to appreciate and respect the wilderness. I know that you, and you who have chosen to live in this beautiful part of the country -- respect and revere these forests as others never can. (Applause.) And you resent the implication that earning your livelihood here -- with sound management of the forest -- makes you less of a conservationist than the city dweller or the suburbanite. (Applause.)

For the past -- and I'm proud of this record, although I don't have the endorsement of some of the extreme environmental groups -- but for the past four years, we've worked hard to protect our precious environment -- and we've accomplished a great deal. Four years ago, I promised Americans a new Clean Air Act. For over a decade, no one could get it done. But we did. My Clean Air Act reduces smog in our cities, and gets toxic pollutants out of the air and will cut acid rain in half.

MORE

Four years ago, I promised I would protect the environmentally sensitive areas off our coasts from the excesses of offshore drilling. And today, there will be no drilling off the coast of California or Washington and Oregon not far from here, off the Florida Keys, off the New England coast. We have banned ocean drilling until the year 2000.

Four years ago, I promised to be a good steward of our public lands. And we've added thousands of miles of trails for Americans like you who love the outdoors. We're reopening and upgrading campsites all across America. And we've added a million and a half acres to our national parks, wildlife areas, forests and recreation lands.

The fact is that every American cares about the environment -- and most consider themselves environmentalists. That is particularly true here in the Pacific Northwest. And yet Americans today realize that we can protect our lands while also using them for people's benefit. (Applause.) They understand the need for wilderness and recreation areas, as well as the need for paper for our schools and offices and timber for new homes.

Being out here in the great Pacific Northwest, I'm reminded of Teddy Roosevelt -- the very first President to focus the attention of the nation on the condition of our natural resources. Teddy Roosevelt once said this: "Wise forest protection does not mean the withdrawal of forest resources from contributing their full share to the welfare of the people." What President Roosevelt had in mind, and what the American people have always wanted, is balance. (Applause.)

Not far from here is a timber town called Forks. Like Colville, Forks supported a mill, and the mill supported a community. Because of a lack of timber, the mill had to close. Today unemployment in Forks is at 20 percent. The car dealership has closed. The clothing store -- gone. The movie theater -- shut down. Domestic violence complaints have doubled, just in the past year.

Forks is in crisis for a simple reason: the balance that I was talking about, that balance has been lost. I've come here because we must restore the balance. (Applause.) Listen to Oregon's Senator Mark Hatfield, who was a cosponsor of the original Endangered Species Act back in 1972. This year, he wrote: "There is no question that the act is being applied in a manner far beyond what any of us envisioned when we wrote it 20 years ago."

The Endangered Species Act was intended as a shield for species against the effects of major construction projects like highways and dams -- not a sword aimed at jobs and families and communities of the entire regions like the Northwest. (Applause.)

But today, when harvesting on federal timberland is stopped outright by 13 different lawsuits, under seven different statutes, each inconsistent with the other -- the balance has been lost. It's time to fight for jobs, families and communities. (Applause.)

The time has come to talk sensibly. When hundreds of mills have been shut down, thousands of timber workers thrown out of work, and revenues for schools and other local services have been slashed, the balance has been lost. And it's time to fight for jobs, families, and communities. (Applause.)

And so, as I say, we must talk sense about the Endangered Species Act, about the spotted owl, and about the management of our forests. Because it is my firm belief that people and their jobs deserve protection, too. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: What about AIDS? What about AIDS?

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THE PRESIDENT: Let me digress for one minute -- let me digress. This man has asked a question here. I hadn't planned to discuss this. His question is -- if you'll listen, sir, I'll explain to you what about AIDS. AIDS is a serious problem. Under my administration we've appropriated \$4.3 billion, ten times as much per victim as for cancer. We've asked for \$4.9 billion. We are the leaders in research, and we're going to keep on fighting until we get this thing whipped. (Applause.)

Now, let me go back to the Endangered Species Act. And let me be clear: The basic purpose of the Endangered Species Act is good and noble -- to save the rare and threatened species of this country. But today, the act and other laws are being used by people with extreme views, particularly here in Washington and Oregon, to achieve in the courts what no sane official would ever have voted for -- the complete lock-up of the most productive forests in the entire United States.

The Endangered Species Act, as rigidly interpreted by some courts and as driven by the Congress, has forced an extreme approach and created an unnecessarily tragic situation here in the Northwest. Massive areas of federal land are being set aside for the owl -- virtually ignoring the fact that two-thirds of the Northwest's old-growth forests are already designated as parks, wilderness, or other classifications. (Applause.) Other classifications that prevent harvesting. And each pair of owls -- listen, America -- gets 3,500 acres to itself, while jobs, families and communities are being wiped out in the process. (Applause.)

And the other side has been talking about a false choice. They claim that this timber crisis is just politics, and the simple fact is this: The false choice is being driven by extremists who are twisting the Endangered Species Act and its application to the Northern Spotted Owl. (Applause.) So I came up here to set the record straight. And let's do that for the entire country, right here. We have always worked within the parameters of the law to address this problem. But I can tell you this: The law is broken, and it must be fixed. (Applause.)

We have asked the United States Congress for funds to cut enough timber in this region to keep people employed. But these conflicting laws allow challenge after challenge. So this year we went to Congress an alternative plan -- a preservation plan that would save 17,000 jobs compared to the recovery plan required by the act. And Congress has simply failed to act.

My friends, it is time to consider the human factor in the spotted Owl equation. (Applause.) My opponent talks about putting people first. Well, we can start right here in the Pacific Northwest. And, so, here's what I propose. Here's what I propose. First, I will not sign an extension the Endangered Species Act unless it gives greater consideration to jobs. And to families and to communities, too. And I will not sign it without a specific plan in place to harvest enough timber to keep timber families working in 1993 and beyond. It is time to make people more important than owls. (Applause.)

And, second, I will fight to end the injunctions that have put an economic stranglehold on the Northwest in order to free up the timber that we need today, because the families and the timber communities of the Pacific Northwest need relief now.

And I call upon Congress to pass my plan to produce 2.6 billion board feet of timber from Forest Service lands in the Northwest region next year and to pass language that prevents lawsuits from stopping reasonable harvests with reasonable species protection. (Applause.) It is time to put people ahead of process.

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Third, my administration will speed the harvesting of

The Endangered Species Act was intended as a shield for species against the effects of major construction projects like highways and dams -- not a sword aimed at the jobs, families, and communities of entire regions like the Northwest.

But today, when harvesting on Federal timberland is stopped outright by 13 different lawsuits -- under 7 different statutes, each inconsistent with the other -- the balance has been lost. It's time to fight for jobs, families and communities.

When hundreds of mills have been shut down, thousands of timber workers thrown out of work, and revenues for schools and other local services have been slashed, the balance has been lost. It's time to fight for jobs, families, and communities.

The time has come to talk sense about the Endangered Species Act, about the spotted owl, and about the management of our forests. Because it is my firm belief that people and their jobs deserve protection too.

Let me be clear: the basic purpose of the Endangered Species Act is good and noble -- to save the rare and threatened species of this country.

But today, the Act and other laws are being used by people with extreme views, particularly here in Washington and Oregon, to achieve in the courts what no sane elected official would ever vote for -- the complete lock-up of the most productive forests in the entire United States.

The Endangered Species Act, as rigidly interpreted by some courts and as driven by the Congress, has forced an extreme approach and created an unnecessarily tragic situation here in the Northwest. Massive areas of Federal land are being set aside for the owl -- virtually ignoring the fact that two-thirds of the Northwest's old growth forests are already designated as parks, wilderness, or other classifications that prevent harvesting. Each pair of owls gets 3,500 acres to itself! Meanwhile, jobs, families and communities are being wiped out in the process.

The other side has been talking about a "false choice." They claim that this timber crisis is just politics. The simple fact is this: the false choice is being driven by extremists who are twisting the Endangered Species Act and its application to the Northern Spotted Owl.

Now let's set the record straight. We have always worked within the parameters of the law to address this problem -- but I can tell you this. The law is broken, and it must be fixed.

We have asked Congress for funds to cut enough timber in this region to keep people employed. But these conflicting laws allow challenge after challenge.

So this year, we sent Congress an alternative plan: a preservation plan that would save 17,000 jobs compared to the recovery plan required by the Act. Congress has failed to act.

My friends, it is time to consider the human factor in the spotted owl equation. My opponent talks about "putting people first" -- well, we can start right here in the Pacific Northwest.

So here is what I propose:

First, I will not sign an extension of the Endangered Species Act unless it gives greater consideration to jobs, families, and communities. And I will not sign it without a specific plan in

MORE

place to harvest enough timber to keep timber families working in 1993 and beyond. It's time to make people more important than owls.

Second, I will fight to end the injunctions that have put an economic strangle-hold on the Northwest, in order to free up the timber that we need today -- because the families and the timber communities of the Pacific Northwest need relief now.

I call upon Congress to pass my plan to produce 2.6 billion board feet of timber from Forest Service lands in the Northwest Region next year -- and to pass language that prevents lawsuits from stopping reasonable harvests with reasonable species protection. It is time to put people ahead of process.

Third, my Administration will speed the harvesting of dead or dying timber that has been dangerously building up during a 7-year drought. One step is our new rule to allow more timber salvage operations to occur without triggering some of the time-consuming requirements that are blocking progress. This will reduce the risk of fire, it'll provide up to 450 million board feet of timber for the mills in the near term. And it's time, then, to protect jobs with timber that's available now. (Applause.)

And fourth, we will make sure that 100 percent of the raw logs from Washington State-owned public lands are processed here. It's time to put the mills back to work. (Applause.)

And, finally, I call upon Congress to pass the Spotted Owl Preservation Plan -- and that's Senator Gorton's bill which he calls "the Northern Spotted Owl Preservation and Northwest Economic Stabilization Act of 1992." It's time to preserve both owls and jobs. And that's what Slade Gorton's act does, and he helps the families in the process. (Applause.)

Now, the Senator mentioned my opponent, so I will, too. (Laughter.) My opponent's approach to this problem -- to your jobs -- is doublespeak. When Bill Clinton spoke in Pennsylvania, he said what the Sierra Club wanted to hear. They concluded that Governor Clinton was -- quote -- "promising the protection of old growth forests in the Pacific Northwest." And then, when he heard I was coming here, Mr. Clinton cynically held out false hope to timber families by promising -- get this -- another meeting.

There have already been more than 40 bipartisan meetings of the Northwest congressional delegation on this issue for three years. Now, here, you wondered what these are -- these are the studies. Look at them. We don't need any more studies of this problem. We need action in the United States Congress. Good heavens! (Applause.) We've produced a pile of studies and proposals that high. The best thing for the timber industry is all the trees it took to print these reports. No more studies, let's change the law. Let's change the law. (Applause.)

And the difference on this is clear. The difference on this is clear. It's as simple as this: My opponent will not fight to change the law to restore balance. And now I know that he's getting famous for being on both sides of every issue. (Laughter.)

Do you want to know the real views of the other ticket? Senator Gore wrote it in black and white in his book, before he knew that he'd be looking for your votes.

In his book, Senator Gore said this, and I quote: "I helped lead the successful fight to prevent the overturning of protections for the Spotted Owl." And Senator Gore wrote, and I quote: "...the jobs will be lost anyway." I challenge Governor Clinton: Do you agree with your running mate? Do you endorse the book that you once called "magnificent"?

It is time we worried not only about endangered species -- but about endangered jobs, jobs in the timber industry and in agriculture, and in transportation and in recreation as well --

It is time we worried not only about endangered species -- but about endangered jobs, jobs in the timber industry and in agriculture, and in transportation and in recreation as well -- (applause) -- all of those are threatened by the Endangered Species Act. (Applause.)

I have come here to tell you that I am a candidate who will respect wildlife, yes -- but who will also fight for jobs, and families, and communities. And I have come here to tell you that I will not stand for a solution that puts at least 32,000 people out of work. I can tell you -- that solution will not stand. (Applause.)

And I have come here to tell you that we haven't forgotten about the human factor -- because in the end, no matter how you look at it, that's the most important factor of all.

I have come here today to tell you that we can restore the balance, and we must restore the balance, and with your help, we will restore the balance.

Thank you, And may God bless you. And may God Bless the United States of America. Thank you all very much. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

1:30 P.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Medford, Oregon)

For Immediate Release

September 14, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO EMPLOYEES OF BURRILL LUMBER COMPANY

Burrill Lumber Company
Medford, Oregon

6:30 P.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Mike, thank you, sir. Thank you very -- he's getting our props ready for this presentation. (Laughter.) Now, thank you so much, Mike, for the introduction. Thanks to your wonderful dad and to the entire Burrill family, and all of you for letting me visit here today.

Last week in Detroit, I released my Agenda for American Renewal. And the agenda was based on a fundamental premise: that the challenges that America faces -- foreign, domestic, economic and, yes, environmental -- are connected. And the solution to one cannot be divorced from the solution to the other. And we need an integrated approach.

And we need to bring this integrated approach to the relationship between the economy and the environment, too. And environmental protection and economic growth must go hand in hand, and they cannot be divorced from each other. And this morning, I spoke in California, down in San Diego, about ways to bring them together. But, frankly, I believe that when it comes to the Endangered Species Act and its application here in the Northwest, the balance has been lost. (Applause.)

Like many of you, I love to hunt and hike and to fish. And like you, I have learned through a lifetime of experience to appreciate and respect the great outdoors -- the wilderness.

And I know that you -- you particularly who have chosen to live in these marvelous parts of the woods -- respect and revere these forests as others never can. And you resent the implication that earning your livelihood here -- with sound management of the forest -- makes you less of a conservationist than the city dweller or the suburbanite. (Applause.)

And for the past four years, my administration and I have worked hard to protect the environment -- and we've accomplished a great deal. Four years ago, I promised Americans a new Clean Air Act. For over a decade, no one could get it done, but we did it. And our Clean Air Act reduces smog in our cities and gets toxic pollutants out of the air and will cut acid rain in half.

And four years ago, I promised that I would protect the environmentally sensitive areas of our coasts from the offshore drilling. And today, there will be no drilling off the coast of California, off the coasts of Washington and Oregon and off the Florida Keys and off the New England coast. And we banned that ocean drilling until the year 2000.

And then, four years ago, I promised to be a good steward of our public lands. And ~~more~~ have added thousands of miles of trails for Americans like you who love the outdoors; and we're

reopening and upgrading campsites all across this great country; and we've added a million and a half acres to our national parks and wildlife areas and forests and recreation lands.

But the fact is that every American cares about the environment -- and most consider themselves environmentalists. And that is particularly true here in the Pacific Northwest. And yet Americans today realize that we can protect our lands while also using them for the people's benefit. They understand the need for wilderness and recreation areas, as well as the need for paper for our schools and offices and timber for new homes. (Applause.)

And being out here in the great Pacific -- the Northwest, I'm reminded of Teddy Roosevelt -- the very first President who focused the attention of the entire nation on the condition of our natural resources. And Teddy Roosevelt once said: "Wise forest protection does not mean the withdrawal of forest resources from contributing their full share to the welfare of the people." What President Roosevelt had in mind, and what the American people have always wanted, is balance.

And not far from here, in the state of Washington, is a timber town called Forks. And Forks supported a mill, and the mill supported a community. And because of the lack of timber, the mill had to close. Today unemployment in Forks is at 20 percent. The car dealership is closed. The clothing store is gone. The movie theater -- shut down. Domestic violence complaints have doubled, just in the past year.

Now, Forks is in crisis for a simple reason: the balance has been lost. And I've come here because we must restore the balance. (Applause.)

Listen to one of the senators -- Senator Mark Hatfield, from here, who was a cosponsor of the original Endangered Species Act back in '72. And this year, he wrote: "There is no question that the act is being applied in a manner far beyond what any of us envisioned when we wrote it 20 ago."

The Endangered Species Act was intended as a shield for species against the effects of major construction projects like highways and dams -- not a sword aimed at jobs, families and communities of entire regions like the Northwest.

But today, when harvesting on federal timberland is stopped outright by 13 different lawsuits, under seven different statutes, each inconsistent with the other -- the balance has been lost. (Applause.) And it's time to fight for jobs, for families and for communities.

And when hundreds of mills have been shut down, thousands of timber workers thrown out of work, and revenues for schools and other local services have been slashed, the balance has been lost. And it's time to fight for jobs, families, and communities. (Applause.)

And so the time has come to talk sense about the Endangered Species Act, about the Spotted Owl, and about the management of our forests. Because it is my firm belief that people and their jobs deserve protection, too. (Applause.)

Let me be clear: The basic purpose of the Endangered Species Act is good and noble -- save the rare and threatened species of this country. But today, the act and other laws are being used by people with extreme views, particularly here in this state, here in Oregon, to achieve in the courts what no sane elected official would ever vote for -- the complete lock-up of the most productive forests in the entire United States. (Applause.)

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The entire Endangered Species Act, as rigidly interpreted by some courts and as driven by the Congress, has forced an extreme approach and created an unnecessarily tragic situation here in the Northwest. Massive areas of federal land are being set aside for the owl -- virtually ignoring the fact that two-thirds of the Northwest's old-growth forests are already designated as parks, wilderness, or other classifications that prevent harvesting. Each pair of owls gets 3,500 acres to itself. And meanwhile, jobs and families and communities are being wiped out in the process.

And the other side has been talking about a "false choice." And they claim that this timber crisis is just politics. And the simple fact is this: The false choice is being driven by extremists who are twisting the Endangered Species Act and its application to the Northern Spotted Owl. (Applause.)

And now let's set the record straight. We've always worked within the parameters of the law to address this problem. But I can tell you this. The law is broken, and it must be fixed.

And we have asked the Congress for funds to cut enough timber in this region to keep people employed. But these conflicting laws allow challenge after challenge.

We convened the God Squad to exempt 13 timber sales here in southern Oregon from jeopardy opinions from the Fish and Wildlife Service. And every one of those sales is now enjoined.

And so this year, we sent Congress an alternative plan, a preservation plan, if you will, that would save 17,000 jobs compared to the recovery plan required by the act. And Congress has failed to act on my plan.

My friends, it is time to consider the human factor in the Spotted Owl equation. My opponent talks about putting people first -- well, we can start right here in the Pacific Northwest. (Applause.)

So here is what I propose:

First, I will not sign an extension of the Endangered Species Act unless it gives greater consideration to jobs, to families, and to communities. (Applause.) And I will not sign it without a specific plan in place to harvest enough timber to keep timber families working in 1993 and beyond. It is time to make people more important than owls. (Applause.)

And second, I will fight to end the injunctions that have put an economic strangle hold on the Northwest, in order to free up the timber that we need today, because the families and the timber communities of the Pacific Northwest need relief and they need it now.

And I call upon the United States Congress to pass my plan to produce 2.6 billion board feet of timber from Forest Service lands in the Northwest region next year, and at least 500 million board feet on BLM land. And I ask Congress to tie that plan to language that prevents lawsuits from stopping reasonable harvests with reasonable species protection. (Applause.) It is time to put people ahead of process. And the Congress must understand that.

And third, my administration will speed the harvesting of dead or dying timber that has been dangerously building up during a seven-year drought. One step is our new rule to allow more timber salvage operations to occur without triggering some of the time-consuming requirements that are blocking progress. This will reduce the risk of fire, and it will provide up to 450 million board feet of timber for the mills in the near term. And in other words, it's time

MORE

to protect jobs with timber that's available now and put the mills back to work. (Applause.)

And finally, I call upon Congress today to pass the Spotted Owl Preservation Plan -- that's the bill sponsored by Senators Packwood and Hatfield and Slade Gorton, which they call "The Northern Spotted Owl Preservation and Northwest Economic Stabilization Act of 1992". It's a long name, but it's a good bill. And it's time to preserve both owls and jobs -- jobs in the timber industry and in agriculture, transportation and in recreation as well, where they, too, are threatened by this Endangered Species Act.

And now a word about my opponent. My opponent's approach to this problem -- and I'll try to be fair -- no, but his approach to this problem, to your jobs, really is -- and look at the record -- doublespeak. When he spoke in Pennsylvania -- Governor Clinton spoke in Pennsylvania -- he said what the Sierra Club wanted to hear. They concluded that Governor Clinton was -- quote -- "promising the protection of old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest." And then, when he heard I was coming here, Mr. Clinton cynically held out false hope to timber families by promising another meeting.

There have already been more than 40 bipartisan meetings of the Northwest congressional delegation on this issue for three years. Now, look, here are the studies. We've produced a pile of studies and proposals this high. And the only good reason for the timber industry -- the only good news is all the trees in took to print all these darn reports. (Applause.) Look at them. And so I say to Governor Clinton, no more studies. Help me change the law. That's what needs to happen. (Applause.)

And the difference on this is clear: I will. I will change it. And it's as simple as this: My opponent will not fight to change the law to restore balance.

And now I know that Mr. Clinton -- and Governor Doublespeak I call him -- (laughter) -- but, nevertheless, is getting famous -- getting famous for being on both sides of these issues. But do you want to know the real views of the other ticket? I hate to bring this word up, but Senator Gore --

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: He wrote it in black and white in his book before he knew that he'd be out there pandering for votes. And in his book, Senator Gore said this -- and I quote: "I helped lead" -- I want to get it right here -- "I helped lead the successful fight to prevent the overturning of protections for the Spotted Owl." And he wrote -- and this is an exact quote -- "the jobs will be lost anyway." I challenge Governor Clinton -- do you agree with your running mate? Do you endorse the book that you once called "magnificent"? It is time we worried not only about endangered species, but about endangered jobs. (Applause.)

And I am here to tell you that I'm the one who will respect the wildlife, yes. I think we all do. We all agree. But I'm also the one who will also fight for jobs, for families, and for communities.

I have come here to tell you that I will not stand for a solution that puts at least 32,000 people out of work. It will not stand. I mean it. (Applause.)

And I've come here to tell you that we haven't forgotten about the human factor; because in the end, in the final analysis when all the campaigns are over and all the charge and countercharge takes place, the human factor, that is the most important factor of all.

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And I've come here today to tell you that we can restore the balance. We must restore the balance. And with your help, we will restore the balance.

May God bless your families, your jobs, your hopes for our great country. And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much. Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you all. (Applause.)

END

6:47 P.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Collegeville, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN
ADDRESS TO THE NORRISTOWN AREA HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Norristown High School
Norristown, Pennsylvania

12:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so much. Thank you, Dr. Holton. And may I congratulate our Superintendent for his leadership on America 2000 and on the job he's doing for the whole school system in this area. Good morning to everybody; it's great to be back in Pennsylvania on this first day of school. Any excuse to get out of class -- I know. And here you all are. Thanks for greeting me. And may I salute the man you heard from a minute ago -- Secretary Alexander, Lamar Alexander. He's come to Washington after great experience in education and in government, and leading us all with this marvelous America 2000 program. We owe him a great vote of thanks, and I'm very pleased to have him with us. (Applause.)

And another old friend is with us today, the Congressman from this district, Larry Coughlin, who is leaving the Congress after marvelous service. But he came in with us.

Larry, do you want to stand up there? (Applause.)

And may I thank all involved with this; particularly Principal Barry Spencer, who has done a great job on all the arrangements and are making these facilities available. Josh Lippy, the President of the Student Council -- I salute him as a student leader. And I should add, welcome back to school. I hope you had a great summer. And out here in the audience are not just students, but members of the Chamber of Commerce, Payson Burt and others that are taking a leadership role. The Class of 2000 -- I salute them -- all of you, these participants who got up and read those education goals. I thought they did a first-class job. Not a nervous one in the bunch. (Applause.) And I salute all the volunteers -- the volunteers that make it happen as we try to reform education. I'll get to the teachers in a minute.

I'm told that many you were nervous this week. Tensions rising about the big event. Wondering how you'll handle all the attention. Well, I'm here to put your fears at rest. I know you'll do great against North Penn Friday night. (Applause.)

You know, I want to just give a serious talk this morning. You know, our world has been through a lot of change in the past few years. When my kids were the age of the kids in this room today, they used to practice nuclear disaster drills. The alarms would go off, and they would all crawl under the desks and wait. This happened all across the country, all across many countries.

That doesn't happen anymore. As a parent and as a grandparent, I am glad that American kids can grow up in the sunshine of peace. And we ought to be grateful for that as a nation. (Applause.)

But now that the Cold War is over, the challenge before our nation is to win the peace. To guarantee that America in the

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21st century will be not just a military superpower, but also an export superpower, an economic superpower.

That's just a fancy way of saying that when you grow up, you deserve the chance to have a good job, and live a better life than your parents and grandparents. And you should live the American Dream.

That's why I'm here this morning, to talk about how we can build what you need and deserve -- the very best schools in the entire world.

Now, I admit, education is not usually found on the front page of the newspaper, or at the top of the evening news -- but it is the solution for most of what you do see there. As a President and as a grandparent, my loyalty lies with young people. Kids like these fifth graders -- who did such a fantastic job laying out these national education goals this morning.

In the year 2000, these fifth graders will graduate from high school. And they will have changed so much, we will barely be able to recognize them. I want the schools from which they graduate to have changed so much, that we won't be able to recognize them, either.

Four years ago, I said I wanted to lead a revolution in American education. And today, I come before you to report -- the revolution is underway.

As President, my job is to set the agenda, and mobilize the nation. And I'm proud that the goals the students read this morning are the very first education goals in our nation's history. They were created by all the governors -- Republicans and Democrats alike -- and are being embraced by parents, by teachers, by business and community leaders -- in town after town, city after city, all across America. Politics is being laid aside, a revolution in education is taking place. And if he were here today, I'd shake his hand and salute the Governor of this state, who is holding out his hand to all who want to see America 2000 succeed. He's been a real leader, and we are grateful to him for that -- Governor Casey. (Applause.)

I have come to Norristown because you accepted my challenge to reinvent American schools. And again, I salute the Principal and the Superintendent. Norristown is in the lead -- but you're not alone. Today, 1,700 communities -- in every single state -- have adopted the vision of what we call "America 2000." Seventeen hundred communities have drawn lines in the sand of the future that reads -- "Our children must be number one."

The federal government should do more than offer congratulations, and we are matching our words with action -- as we promised.

You've heard about our first goal -- making sure every student arrives at school ready to learn. For the first time, every eligible four-year-old who wants a Head Start on kindergarten can get one. We have asked for record increases in investment for math and science education -- to help train teachers. That is consistent with goal number four that was read here -- math and science excellence. And I bet you were proud to watch the Olympics, and see Jordan and Ewing and Malone slam dunk the opposition. By the year 2000, I want you -- our young people -- to be able to slam dunk the rest of the world in math and science. And we can do it. (Applause.)

Goal number five is to guarantee a skilled, literate work force. My opponent accuses me of cutting education spending. That's just flat wrong. I have proposed record increases in education funding -- and during my four years, federal investments in

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education have increased at a more rapid rate than state and local funding.

But if you think that money alone will reinvent our schools -- think again. As a nation, only Switzerland -- only Switzerland spends more per student on elementary and secondary education. This doesn't mean we should not make new investments, it means we cannot spend our money on the old way of doing things.

Our schools were basically designed for another age -- a hundred years ago. A world of Model T cars, in which toasters and flashlights were a big deal. A world in which most clothes were made at home -- imagine -- a world without the King of Prussia Mall! (Laughter.) Hard to believe.

But today, if you apply for a summer job in a car factory, they'll ask you if you can handle mathematics, estimation and spatial relations, things your mom and dad just didn't have to know. And other things have changed. It's tougher being a parent, tougher being a teacher, and my grandkids tell me -- it's pretty tough being a kid these days.

The world has changed, and so must our schools.

You don't have to look far for new ideas. Teachers, school board members, parents, business leaders -- all are fountains of innovation. They represent the true genius of America -- and we must encourage them. Right now, as we gather today, America is responding to this charge. Really, four revolutions are underway.

First, we are in the process of creating hundreds of what we call "Break-The-Mold" schools -- schools that reject the status quo. For example, a school where students attend all year round. Now, I challenged America to come up with ideas for these schools, and Norristown was one of 700 communities that responded. I applaud you for your energy. I applaud you for your creativity.

Revolution number two has to do with what we teach in our schools. We must demand more of you, so that you can compete in the world economy. Your math teachers are already relying on new, world-class standards, and you are learning more than your older brothers and sisters. By the time today's fifth graders enter high school, we will have new standards in science, history, English, geography, civics and the arts.

And to support these standards, we will have a national examination system -- and I call it the American achievement tests, so that parents can know how our kids and our schools are doing.

The third revolution involves a very important person -- your teacher. If I can ask a favor, since this is the first day of school, I assume none of you have received any tests back yet. So let's take advantage of the good feeling, and say thanks to all the teachers in this room. They are making a difference in your life -- and we should applaud them. And I'd like to ask them to stand up -- all the teachers here. (Applause.) Thank you all very much.

When your teachers -- let me make this point to the students -- when your teachers chose their career, they did it because they love learning, and they love helping you to live up to your potential. They certainly didn't do it for self-gain; they did it to help someone else.

Not long ago, as part of my America 2000 effort, I met with some teachers up in Lehigh Valley, and I asked them what was their biggest problem. I thought they might talk about a lack of money, or discipline, or the drug problem. But they instead talked about all the paperwork and regulations -- about getting state government off their back.

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I cannot do much about Harrisburg, but this week Congress will consider my legislation to give teachers more flexibility in using federal funds, as long as they achieve results. Congress wants to give flexibility to just 300 schools, I want to give it to all 110,000 schools. We've got to relieve these teachers of federally-mandated paperwork requirements. (Applause.) I trust the teachers, not the government, to do what's right for our students.

There's one final revolution underway -- I think every parent should have the right to choose the school they want for their children.

Not long ago, I was talking with a Milwaukee parent -- she and her kid came to the Roosevelt Room right outside of the Oval Office in the White House. Her name -- Janette Williams. She told me her son Javon went to a crowded school, teachers couldn't pay attention to him. He was so bored, he'd just go home halfway through the day. And then Milwaukee gave some parents the right to choose new schools for their kids. And today, this kid Javon is doing his homework, attending all his classes, even helping clean up around the classroom.

I want to hear more stories like that. My G.I. Bill For Kids would give \$1,000 scholarships to children of middle-and low-income families that they can use to spend on any school of their choice. Most parents would choose public schools, but every parent should be able to choose any school -- public, private, or religious. (Applause.)

Right here in Norristown, almost 6,000 kids -- about two-thirds of the school population -- would be eligible for this \$1,000 scholarship. Norristown would receive another \$6 million in new federal funds -- not controlled by bureaucrats, but parents and teachers. And when it comes to choosing schools -- I trust parents -- not the government -- to do the right thing. (Applause.)

So these are the four revolutions in American education. "Break-The Mold" Schools. New standards. Getting government off the teacher's backs. And giving parents real choice.

Together, these revolutions will change our schools. When these fifth graders come back to visit Miss Ritter and Mrs. Bieler in eight years, they will marvel at how small the desks are, and how they have to stoop way over to use the water fountain. But as they look and listen to the school around them, they will say -- everything else has changed.

Now, as some of you may have heard, there's an election in about 55 days. So, before I leave you this morning, I want to take just a moment, and contrast my education vision with the opponent's. I want to be fair. When I convened the national education summit -- I mentioned it earlier in this speech about -- with the governors present, most of the governors attended. Governor Clinton's role was constructive; he helped to set these national education goals. And I commend him for that.

However, the facts tell the story about his own record. In 1980, Arkansas ranked 47th in the percentage of adults with high school diplomas, now 48th. Today, they're dead last -- in the percentage of adults with college degrees.

But that's not the real issue -- the real issue is what kind of education president would my opponent be.

And in this campaign -- Governor Clinton has spent a lot of time courting the education establishment, teachers unions leaders, and the liberal Congress. These people fear change. Look at the education before Congress today. They really don't want to

spend more money on education, they want to spend it on the same old system. I wish fixing our schools was that easy, it is not.

A President's job is to set a path -- and insist that the nation sticks to it. But Governor Clinton is in with the crowd who say "no" to break-the-mold schools, "no" to higher standards, "no" to less regulation, and "no" to my G.I. Bill for Kids. Here's the difference between me and my opponent. He has told the education establishment what they want to hear -- and I will continue to tell them -- what America needs to hear. (Applause.)

You hear a lot of talk about change in this election. But ultimately, change isn't what you say, it is what you do. With your help and the help of millions of other Americans, we have set the forces in motion, to literally revolutionize the way we prepare our young people. And I hope you will give me the opportunity to finish the revolution.

To the parents, teachers, community leaders, and students participating in Norristown 2000, I say "thank you." You are writing a better chapter in the history of America's next generation.

Thanks for listening. And may God Bless each and every one of you, the State of Pennsylvania and The United States of America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

12:20 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Hamtramck, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

September 7, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO HAMTRAMCK POLISH FESTIVAL PARADE

Hamtramck, Michigan

4:18 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Paul. And thank you, Governor Engler. Thank you very, very much. I love this sign. Of all the signs out there -- "These are the Poles that count." You are the Poles that count. (Applause.)

Early this morning, the Governor and his wife, Michelle, and Barbara and I all joined about 80,000 for a walk across the bridge up in northern Michigan. He didn't mention it, but I beat the Governor across the bridge. But he says he was just being polite and hanging back with the First Lady. (Applause.)

Today I don't want to talk about politics, I want to talk about something else. Something that's near and dear to the hearts of everybody -- freedom. May I recognize some of the outstanding leaders who are with us today. Monsignor Milewski, your great Mayor -- (applause) -- Robert Kozaren, my friend, the President of the Polish General Council, who introduced me; Paul Odrobina; Parade Chairman Ted Koltowicz; and the Grand Marshall, Walter Budweil. Thank you all very much.

My fellow Americans, this past Independence Day, I traveled to the heartland of Poland to bury a treasure. In the crypt of an ancient cathedral, I stood with President Walesa as the remains of the great patriot and artist, Ignacy Paderewski, were finally laid to rest in the rich and free Polish soil that conceived and sustained him. (Applause.)

And the ripples from that moment, as his remains were consecrated to the earth on that warm summer day in Warsaw are passing through this crowd, here and now. Sons and daughters of Hamtramck, your forebears came to this great country because they, too, could not countenance a Poland shackled by repression. Rather than cling to native soil bled dry by empty promises, they chose instead to flourish free on foreign soil and to make it their own. Today you are part of the great family that is America. (Applause.)

And fellow Americans, I am proud to be with you in Hamtramck on Labor Day. You are the blood and bone of Copernicus and Chopin and Curie. You are the sweat and sinew that built this city and this industry. And you are the voice and vision of your parents, who struggled to be heard and won that struggle, that labor's voice may be heard always. Always. (Applause.)

You are the inspiration for Americans who watched and prayed and cheered through recent years as the great nation of Poland, racked by the rhythms of war and oppression rose like a phoenix, a free nation once again.

We watched this new force, not pushing down from a tyrant, but up from the people. We prayed for the nation of Poland reborn, brimming with a new and different fluid of life, inspired by a Pope, and by a passion for freedom, for freedom at last. We cheered a Gdansk

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electrician who electrified the world with the charge that all people should be free and be heard. And we stood proud, as American labor took to the forefront during the struggle, standing with Solidarity in its darkest hour, firm in the belief that the dream was real.

I stood before you right here in Hamtramck, right here three years ago, with this message: Communism has left an ugly scar on Poland. It will heal, but with pain. The pain of insecurity and insolvency. And I pledged America's help. Today, I return to you to say that this country and our allies have responded forcefully.

First, our concern for Poland's security. On that day here three years ago, I called for an end to the Cold War. And thank God, the Cold War has ended. And thank God, freedom won. (Applause.) And America will do what's right to make certain Poland never again braves the chilling tomb of communism.

And second, our concern for Polish solvency. It's been said that communism is not a form of economics, it's the death of economics. So three years ago, I called for all to rally 'round with economic efforts to help pull Poland from an economic grave. I called for giving Poland preferred trade treatment, so she can reach out to the world through exports. I called for reducing Poland's debt, to ease her burden. I called for investors to help unleash the explosive entrepreneurial energy of the Polish people. I called for loans so the Polish private sector can help her economy blossom. I called for international financial agreements, so Poland can build a financial base worthy of a great nation.

In 1989, these and other major initiatives marked a radical new direction for our foreign policy toward Poland and other democracies. In 1992, I've returned to tell you, Democrat or Republican, whoever you're for, all these predictions and pledges have come true. Every single one of them. (Applause.)

There are those who tell me that foreign policy doesn't matter; that with our internal challenges, America has no business paying attention to the world anymore. I say, tell that to the immigrants of America. Tell that to our children, who are free of nuclear nightmare and can dream the sweet dream of peace. I am proud that we helped change the world. (Applause.) Tell that to American workers who have a new world of consumers eager for the fruit of your labors. On this Labor Day, let me be clear, no one can outproduce, outthink or outcreate the American working man and woman. No one. (Applause.)

So we recognize that the noble experiment taking place in Poland and other nations today is, in fact, an inspiration and an opportunity for us and the rest of the world.

So we pledge our support for Poland's security. We pledge our support for Poland's solvency. We pledge to work for a democratic peace, an enduring peace anchored in economic and political freedom. And most of all, we pledge to keep our word. We pledge to keep Poland free. (Applause.)

My friends, we stand today in the twilight of one millennium and the dawn of the next. Never before has humankind beheld such a view. And never before has our nation been pressured by such deep energies of change and growth reshaping America like the strong hands of a potter on wet clay. But we will survive, and we will thrive. Why? Because the American people are like the great Statue of Liberty that stands in New York Harbor. We're like that great statue, brought over in pieces from the Old World; strapped together with bolts to steel right here on our own American soil; assembled, raised and anchored on a rock in our own American waters. And we are like that statue because the family that is America came over in pieces as well.

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And we came as Poles and Hungarians and Chinese and Germans, Japanese, Irish, Swedes, and French; Italians, Russians, Spaniards, Cubans, Koreans, Hondurans, Lithuanians, and Finns; Ukrainians, Latvians, Bulgarians and Mexicans; Israelis, Albanians, Czechs, Macedonians. And that roster of new Americans goes on and on and never ends. (Applause.)

And like that great statue, we came over in pieces. Our cultures were bolted together by hope. Our cross-struts are many. Our strengths are eternal. Our hopes unite us. And our vision is one. A vision of prosperous peace for our children. And the last best hope for that vision is you, the American people. (Applause.)

And it's now time -- it's now time to take those same heartfelt urges that made us become the statue and put them to work here at home. This fight for freedom isn't fought on the dark, treacherous borders far from home. This fight for freedom is fought on the economic battlefield -- by creating new jobs, opening new markets, building new American strengths right here -- here and abroad. (Applause.) And this fight is fought with creativity, determination, and investment in the hearts and minds of the American people.

Here in Hamtramck and across this nation, these are the forces Americans must bring to bear on our future so every American's human potential is stretched to its God-given best.

Hamtramck, you can change the world with a gift your mothers and fathers left behind. And today, I challenge you to redeem the struggles they endured. Make their labors mean something. Redeem the struggles Solidarity suffered. Redeem the struggles Kosciuszko and Pulaski, and, in fact, all the Kowalskis and Janowskis who lived and died and aimed at one simple thing: to be heard, to have a voice, to vote.

And come November 3rd, I challenge you to breathe life into the meaning of Labor Day and into the meaning of Solidarity and into the hopes and the dreams of the thousands who have died for the precious right we so often ignore.

I challenge you to vote your conscience. And I would hope you would vote for me, of course. But only you can know your heart. (Applause.) And as you cast that vote, observe how easy it is. And remember how costly -- how terribly costly this great gift was to win and to earn and to pass down to us here today.

Ladies and gentlemen, that is the legacy of Hamtramck. That is the legacy of your ancestors' homeland. And that is the legacy of the family of America. Make her proud.

Thank you all. God bless you for this wonderful support. (Applause.) And may God bless a free, an always-free Poland. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

4:31 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Chicago, Illinois)

For Immediate Release

September 6, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT TASTE OF POLONIA FESTIVAL

Copernicus Center
Chicago, Illinois

2:45 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mitch. Thank you all for that great welcome.

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so much for the wonderful introduction. And may I pay my respects to the Governor Jim Edgar, doing a superb job for the people of this great state. Jim, we're grateful to you. (Applause.)

Let me also single out Rich Williamson. We need him in the United States Senate. We've got to change the Congress. We've got to clean the House. We've got to elect Rich Williamson to the Senate. (Applause.)

And another old friend, Wally Dudycz -- glad to see him. And Jack O'Malley and Lou Kasper. The Polish Counsel General came to greet me, Mr. Jankowski. Ed Moskel, of course, our old, dear friend. And again, I'd like to salute Secretary Ed Durwinski, known so well to everybody here -- an outstanding American that has served his country with such distinction. (Applause.)

This past Independence Day -- some of you were with us -- I traveled to the heartland of Poland to bury a treasure. In the crypt of an ancient cathedral I stood with President Lech Walesa as the remains of the great patriot, Ignacy Paderewski, was finally laid to rest in the rich and free Polish soil that conceived and sustained him.

And it struck me, this was the fulfillment of Poland's dreams. Think of what we have seen together in the last few years. We watched a Gdansk electrician, a humble man, stand up for freedom -- electrify the world with the charge that all people should be free and be heard. We watched the nation of Poland reform, brimming with a new and different fluid of life, inspired by the passion for freedom. And we watched a Pope named John Paul II, a proud Pole. (Applause.)

And as we gather today at this festival, a good time to count our blessings, I can say something no President ever could say before. The Cold War is over and freedom finished first. And Poland is free. (Applause.)

You know, my opponents say --

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: We've got a lot of work to do for four more, I'll tell you.

These critics, the Clinton-Gore ticket, say that I spend too much time on foreign policy. Well, let me tell you this: American schoolchildren used to hide under their desks in drills to prepare for nuclear war. We saw the chance to cut down the threat of nuclear war, and we did it. And does that matter?

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You bet it matters to the young people that are here right here today. (Applause.)

You know, over the past -- and everybody in this crowd understands this -- Democrat, Republican, liberal -- it doesn't matter. You understand this point. Over the past four years, more people have breathed the fresh air of freedom than in all of human history. We saw a chance to help, and I did it. And do you say, does that matter? Of course, it does. You bet it does. (Applause.)

Now our challenges are straight-forward. This Labor Day weekend we must dedicate ourselves to the challenge -- economic security for the working men and working women of America. That is the big challenge -- jobs for the American people. (Applause.) You know, in this 21st century America must not only be a military superpower, we've got to be an export superpower, and we've got to be an economic superpower. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: My vision is to look forward -- to open new markets, to prepare our people to compete, to save and to invest, to strengthen the American family so that we can win. (Applause.)

You know, I've spent half my life in public service -- half in the private sector. I built a business, and I met a payroll. And I believe that is a good qualification for being President of the United States -- to know what it is to hold a job in the private sector. (Applause.)

And Governor Clinton has spent all but a handful of years of his adult life in government. Now he says he respects the small businessman, he loves the private sector. Well, maybe it's a good chance now to give him a chance to experience what it's like to be in the private sector. Because he isn't going to be President of the United States. (Applause.)

I agree with you -- government has got to help people. But government is too big and it taxes too much and it spends too much of your money. And we've got to get it under control. (Applause.)

And so I put a freeze on domestic discretionary spending, plus a plan to control mandatory federal spending except Social Security. I said at the beginning: Don't mess with Social Security. And we are not going to let them touch Social Security. (Applause.) My plan -- and is up before the Congress now -- would save nearly \$300 billion in over five years. And I want to say "Do widzenia" to more than 4,000 wasteful federal projects -- like a national research program -- and get into this one -- the mating habits of the mink. We do not need to spend your taxpayers money on that kind of program. (Applause.)

So the gridlocked Congress has balked at my ideas. So now I have a new idea. Give you all a say on it -- I want to give you, the taxpayer, the option of taking 10 percent of your income tax and using it for one purpose alone -- to reduce the national deficit. Get the mortgage off the back of these young people. Check off 10 percent to get the deficit down. (Applause.)

If Congress won't cut spending, let you, the people, do it. And I'll be at your side.

But while we cut federal spending, we can still set priorities to help people in need to get back on their feet. So this week, I took money that had already been appropriated -- and used it to help farmers whose crops were destroyed. And I said

I'd help the private sector rebuild devastated Florida and Louisiana. And let me thank the people of Illinois who reached out to help their fellow man down in the south. You have been magnificent. (Applause.)

But anyway, when I did all this -- when I did all this to try to help these people Governor Clinton, of all people, accused me of "pandering." This from the man that Paul Tsongas -- you remember the little bear? -- this from the man that Paul Tsongas called the "Pander Bear." The same Paul Tsongas who said on April 7th, the American people are just hearing how cynical and unprincipled Bill Clinton is. That's not from a Republican, that was from a Democrat -- Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts. And he's right. He is right. (Applause.)

But here are the facts. Governor Clinton proposes at least \$220 billion in new spending, just to start. Newsweek Magazine called the Clinton approach -- and I quote -- "economic fantasy". And Newsweek went on to say that the real cost of the Clinton program is "arguably at least three times higher" than he's admitted. And he has mentioned program after program after program that he wants to increase spending for. So while we're eating a little Kielbasa he's offering pie in the sky. Who does he think he's kidding? Not the American people. (Applause.)

You know, I've been one of these guys who is accused of thinking every day is the Fourth of July. Well, I like the way a cartoon summed it up. My opponent thinks that every day is April 15th. You know what happens then. They have this cartoon; it featured a guy at the kitchen table. He said to his wife, "Honey, I figure we can afford all those taxes Clinton and Gore want to raise if I can get two of those jobs they say they'll create."

Well, raising taxes doesn't create jobs, it destroys them. You know that. So with the savings that I have proposed, we can cut taxes and get this economy moving again. The difference is tax and spend versus less taxes and less spending. (Applause.)

Now, one other thing. More than two percent of our Gross Domestic Product is spent not in the factory, not in the classroom, not in the laboratory -- but in and around the courtroom. I've never heard of a nation that sued its way to greatness. So I have a plan for the gridlocked Congress to cut down on all these crazy lawsuits that are choking our economy. (Applause.) Too many lawsuits. And as a nation we ought to sue each other less and care for each other just a little bit more. That's my philosophy. That's the way Barbara looks at it. (Applause.)

Another thing: You look around and see these great kids, and you think we've got to do better in education. Three years ago this month, we started a revolution in American education -- one called America 2000. Today -- for the first time -- every eligible four-year-old whose parents choose to participate can get a Head Start on kindergarten. That is progress. That is the way to help the young people in this country.

Today -- for the first time -- half our students in college have a federal loan or grant. Grants and loans are at an all-time high under our administration for these college kids. (Applause.)

And we have a new G.I. Bill For Kids -- we want to give every one of you the freedom to pick where your children will learn -- any program, any school. I favor school choice. Let the parents decide whether it's public, private, or religious schools. (Applause.)

We've got to do better in education. We've got to do better in law enforcement, backing up the law enforcement people. It's cheaper to send a kid to Yale than to send a kid to jail. Penn State is cheaper than the state pen. But for those who refuse to pitch in and help build up America and instead tear us down -- we need to show them what law and order is all about. It's about supporting our police forces and judicial system. God bless the police that stand up against these outrageous criminals. (Applause.)

And it's time we take back the streets of America and support the American family. It is time we let those family values come to the fore. (Applause.)

And that means let's reform our welfare system, so that families stay together, and these fathers that owe the money will stick around and pay what they owe to these mothers that are trying to bring up these kids. (Applause.) And while we're at it, I've got a plan for health care, and that plan says this: We don't need the government taking over health care. It doesn't work. We've got the best quality health care. What we need is to pool insurance. What we need are designed -- not respect for government policies, but respect for the American family.

We've made progress great progress, and now I ask for your help for a health care reform that will bring insurance to every single family that wants it. That's our proposal. His is to turn it over to the government. (Applause.)

Now this is the last point. This is the last point -- except I want to say a word to this guy over here who feels very strongly about something. He's talking about AIDS. Under my administration the spending for this deadly disease is up from \$4.3 billion to a request for \$4.9 billion. We care. We are working. And disruptions don't help. What helps is what you feel in your heart. And we will keep on this research until we whip that deadly disease. (Applause.)

So we made a lot of progress. But in others we've got a ways to go. And you ask me why -- and I would say three words -- the gridlocked Congress. And I know you get tired of people blaming each other, but let me explain something. There are certain numbers that mean something. Number 40 -- Gale Sayers. Number 8 -- Carl Yastremski. Number 23 -- a certain basketball player in baggy shorts.

Here's one you may not know. Number 38. That's how long the same party, the same crowd has been running the United States House of Representatives -- 38 years. Ask Millie, our dog, and she'll tell you that's 266 years in a dog life. Change the Congress. Change the Congress. Clean the House. Elect Rich Williamson to the Senate. (Applause.)

And while we're at it, elect Eliah Zenkich to the House. And while we're at it, let's limit the terms of congressmen. Let's get some limits out there so things will change. (Applause.)

Let me tell you this. If you detect a little optimism about our country, you're absolutely right. The other side is saying that we're somewhere between Germany and Sri Lanka. They ought to go abroad. Let them go to Poland. Let them look into the eyes of the Polish people who thank America every single day for their freedom. (Applause.) Let Governor Clinton take a look. Let him see what this world is like with freedom and democracy on the march.

We have done it. And we can do it right here at home with your help. God bless our country. Don't let them tear it down. God bless the United States of America. And thank you for this wonderful turnout. Thank you all. (Applause.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 1, 1992

TELEVISION ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON HURRICANE RELIEF

The Oval Office

9:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Good evening, everyone. Eight days ago, the people of South Florida and Louisiana were confronted by perhaps the most destructive natural disaster in our history. Tonight, I want to report to the nation on the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew and the effort required to help Andrew's survivors back on their feet.

In the past week I've twice visited Louisiana and Florida. And in Florida, where the storm was strongest, up to a quarter million people have lost their homes -- many huddled beneath the busted timbers of what was once a living room or a kitchen. There's no running water, no electricity. Little children are left without even a toy to play with.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, a relief effort has risen -- unprecedented in size and impact. And tonight, as we speak, almost 20,000 troops are on the ground, assisting in everything from providing meals to erecting tent cities. Basic human needs -- food, water, shelter and medical assistance -- are being provided.

In Florida, a curfew is in place, and the National Guard and local police patrol the streets. It's a tribute to these officers and to the people of this region that looting has been kept to a minimum. Social Security checks are being delivered on time. Financial help is being made available to families who have lost their homes and their jobs.

This relief effort has generated incredible cooperation. My thanks go to so many people who slept so little the past eight days: to state and local government officials, federal agencies, private charities and the heroic men and women of the United States military. Most especially, my appreciation goes out to the volunteers.

When we arrived in Florida, some of the first people we met were from South Carolina, victims of Hurricane Hugo who had spent the night driving so they could help others through their ordeal. We met doctors and firefighters spending sleepless vacations lending a helping hand. Through the eloquence of their action, I've been reminded that America will always be a nation of neighbors.

Although the relief effort is well underway, urgent needs still exist. And so tonight I make a special appeal to the generous spirit of the American people. People in Florida and Louisiana want to stay in their homes. They're in desperate need of rolls of plastic to cover open roofs, lumber to board up walls and cots to sleep on. They also need diapers and baby formula and other infant supplies. And fresh volunteers are needed to staff medical facilities or help with the cleanup.

Right now, America's churches and charities are mobilizing to meet these needs. And I encourage all Americans to

pitch in, in any way you can. If you don't know where to turn and you want to help right now, please call the American Red Cross at 1-800-842-2200. 1-800-842-2200. Once our relief effort is complete, we will accelerate the process of recovery.

Already today we announced plans to rebuild Homestead Air Force Base, the lynchpin of the economy in devastated areas. And a distinguished Florida business leader, Alvah Chapman, has agreed to head a national private sector effort to help rebuild south Florida. It's called "We Will Rebuild." This effort has my strong support, and the support of Florida Governor Chiles.

All of us are in this for the long haul. If you want to be a part of this effort, please write: "We Will Rebuild." And the address is: Post Office Box 010790, Miami, Florida, and the zip code is 33131.

In the past eight days we've seen on our TV screens real tears, real sorrow, real hurt. Livelihoods have been destroyed. Lives -- even young lives -- have been tragically lost. But already in Florida and Louisiana, we're talking not just of relief but of recovery. This is a tribute to what is inside us.

And, yes, Andrew blew a whirlwind of devastation. But we could never extinguish the American spirit, a spirit of compassion and sacrifice and endurance. We have seen that spirit in action the past eight days. And with this spirit and your enduring commitment, our neighbors in south Florida and Louisiana will recover.

Thank you for your generosity. And our prayers are with all who stood in Andrew's path.

Good night.

END

9:05 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 1, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO HOMESTEAD COMMUNITY

Homestead Middle School
Homestead, Florida

10:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Let me, at the outset of these remarks, say how much I appreciate the cooperative spirit here: The Governor of Florida, the Mayor, and the City Manager of Homestead, and the other cities here that are represented. And all are pitching in. I am so proud of what our military is doing. And God bless the volunteers, those who are giving of themselves to help others. It is a moving and a wonderful message that's going forth to the whole country -- whether it's from the military, from state officials, from local officials, or from the volunteers, the propensity of one American to help another. That the message that I get loud and clear.

Last week I was here in south Florida, and then I returned to Washington and issued the orders to help people get back on their feet. And we're in this for the long haul. We won't leave until the job is done. And that's why I'm here this morning with Secretary Cheney, the Secretary of Defense. And I'm proud to be at the side of our two Senators from Florida who have been working day and night along with the Governor trying to help the people of this state.

Today I'm announcing that we are committed to rebuilding Homestead Air Force Base -- (applause) -- to show our commitment to south Florida. Homestead is very important to our military. It helps combat the cocaine trade. It provides air defense. And it will be rebuilt.

Now, I don't underestimate our task in south Florida, particularly after being here -- back here today. And to ease the financial burden, today I am authorizing under the Stafford Act, full federal reimbursement for 100 percent of all -- (applause) -- of all eligible public assistance, including projects such as debris removal, to eliminate immediate threats to public health and safety, and repair and reconstruction of nonprofit facilities.

After the state has committed an amount equal to -- what was it, \$10 per capita -- but this authorization is the maximum that we can do, and I am very proud that we're doing this.

Temporary housing and mortgage assistance, crisis counseling, disaster unemployment assistance will continue to be 100 percent federally funded where permitted under the law. And although some cost sharing is involved, the federal assistance that I have authorized today represents an extraordinary and very appropriate response to this human tragedy.

However, the real heroes of Hurricane Andrew have been and will continue to be the people, the people of south Florida. They offer great hope for tomorrow. And to help coordinate the private sector response to Hurricane Andrew, I've asked Alvah Chapman, a very respected Florida leader and businessman, to serve as the private sector liaison to work with Secretary Card, to work with

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the Governor, to work with the federal task force to ensure the most effective recovery effort possible.

Also, as I said yesterday, I want to commend and thank in the strongest terms possible, the great effort of these private volunteer agencies who have responded so quickly and so well to the crisis. God bless the volunteers. (Applause.)

And I know -- and I say this confidently -- that these volunteers can count on the continued support of the American people in their ongoing work in meeting the critical needs of the people of south Florida. We are going to succeed. We will succeed because the people of south Florida -- because of their spirit.

I've seen many examples of this just since I've been here, but let me just mention Isa Haydem* who owns a Days Inn in Homestead. Isa fired up his commercial-sized outdoor grill, cooked steaks, shrimp and scallops -- food donated by the local restaurants. And last Wednesday they fed 2,500 people during the day. And at night they fed almost 300 -- most of whom are police out there working their hearts out to keep order.

Well, it's heroes like this, and there are many other such examples, which make Alex Muxo, the Homestead City Manager, say, "It's never gone, there's always tomorrow." Well, I agree. And we, working cooperatively with everybody, will rebuild south Florida. The spirit's still here. The spirit is still intact.

And may God bless the people that have been hurt. We're here to help. Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

A great crowd -- I did not mention the Congressman here, Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. And, of course, my old friend Dante Fascell, who represents this area. He's been the conscience here, getting in touch with us on things that we could do, including this matching of funds situation. So I salute him and Ileana.

Q Mr. President, how long is the long haul in your estimation, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Whatever it takes. Whatever it takes.

Q Years, perhaps?

THE PRESIDENT: I'd have to defer to the experts on that. But amazing progress has been made. Out of the rubble you can see tent cities springing up. You can see medical units staffed by volunteers, former military guys and other -- down here pitching, right in this very facility. So it's happening all over the place. And, again, I don't think you can know the answer to the question to how long until we actually can measure not only the federal response and the state and local response, but the response of the volunteer sector, which I'm convinced is -- will be overwhelming. It already has started. Look what the Red Cross and these ministries are doing. It is unbelievable. And that spirit is going to move it along very, very fast.

Q Mr. President, Governor Clinton says that once the dust settles that there should be an investigation --

THE PRESIDENT: Well, look, let me say this, Jim -- I'm not even going to take any political questions. I have tried, and I know the Governor has, these senators have, congressmen standing with me have, try to keep it out of the political arena. And I have no comment whatsoever simply to say we're here to help, and I really mean that. (Applause.) This is a not a -- nothing to do with partisanship. It has everything to do with helping the families,

*phonetic

some of whom are standing right here today. And we're going to try to keep it that way.

Q Well, in a nonpartisan spirit, then, is there going to be an investigation into the federal -- response, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: I am very proud of the federal response. And I think the Governor has been very gracious in his comments, certainly the others have. And let me express my total confidence in the federal response and in the response, particularly of the military, be it the Guard under the state, be it the military that come under Secretary Cheney and General Powell's command. They've moved fast, they're here in large numbers. But they're here with hearts that are reaching out to the people, and that's what matters.

Q Mr. President, does your 100 percent reimbursement mean that there will be billions of dollars in federal aid?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it does mean that. Well, I don't know, we have to wait and see what the estimates are.

Q Andy Card --

THE PRESIDENT: Well, he's an expert and he has my full confidence. And I salute Andy Card, Secretary of Transportation. He's pulled off of his duties and responsibilities there, and he's taken on a massive job of coordination. And he deserves great support and certainly the thanks of the President. And I know we all feel that way about what he's doing.

Q If you had a message specifically for young people of the community, what would it be?

THE PRESIDENT: It would be have hope. We're going to get these schools open again, working with the state and local officials. I talked to the state superintendent, to the Miami superintendent of schools today. He demonstrates a determination and a spirit that just really moved me. I called him from the plane coming down here. And I'll tell you, with that kind of spirit and then the cooperation from these officials -- local, state and federal -- why, we're going to get the job done.

But my message to these kids would be, look, you've had a tough time, and you lost a lot of stuff -- a lot of toys, a lot of -- you've seen your mothers and dads hurt, but you're going to bounce back. You're living in America. And the American spirit is going to lift you up. And that's the answer.

Last one.

Q Mr. President, a lot of people -- they're afraid to use the tents because they're concerned about security of their homes. And do you have anything you can say to encourage them --

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I would encourage them to use these tent cities. If they don't want to stay there all night long, they ought to go there, get medical attention, get showers, use the sanitary facilities there, get the food that's there. But I've talked to Governor Chiles about this. He has expressed his confidence not only in the National Guard, who has the security function and will be patrolling, but all of us have expressed our support for the local law enforcement people.

And I think it's a tribute to the spirit of Florida and the people of Florida that the acts of violence have been far less than predicted. And we would, of course, condemn any violence, any taking advantage of one's neighbor. But nevertheless, I think that my message to them would be, use the facilities that exist.

I met a family right across the way here, literally less than a block from here. And they needed medical attention for a child. And they told me that -- were asking, we need medical attention. Where can we get help? Here are these fantastic volunteers, right here, less than a block away, who stand ready to help in whatever the ailment, whatever the illness.

And so I think the city officials, the Mayor, the City Manager are doing what they can now to get the message out. The Army has distributed, I think it's 10,000 radios. And those will be in the communities. And over those radios will be broadcast: What's available? How do you get your insurance? How do you get your Social Security check? Where do you go for medical attention? And once that communication network gets going, say nothing of word of mouth, then I think these people will be beautifully served.

Some are scared to leave their homes. And I would simply say to them, trust in the security that's being provided in the neighborhoods. And you don't have to be gone for all the time. If you feel more comfortable in your home or what's left of it, go, take a kid and go and leave somebody else in the house, and then come back. But soon that confidence will build, because these military people that have set up the camps, these private sector people, the Red Cross and others that have set up these facilities really have the spirit that will give the people the reassurance they need.

And it'll take care of itself, but we to get the message out. And we're going to continue to try to do that.

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

END

10:15 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Ansonia, Connecticut)

For Immediate Release

August 24, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Warsaw Park Hall
Ansonia, Connecticut

2:05 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. Michael, thank you and all the others at the Chamber. Thank you for that introduction. And let me just explain what Michael was talking about. There has been this hurricane down in Florida, and so we leave right from here to go down to Newark, take the plane and head on down to look at that damage and express our concerns to the people there.

But I am just delighted to be here. A warm reception coming into town. I want to thank David Rifkin and especially the Mayor Thomas Hallihan. And let me also mention an old friend and a good man, Gary Franks, who's the Congressman here. I am so indebted to him. (Applause.) And another that you all know so well in this valley, John Rowland. He's a great man and I want to see him do more. (Applause.)

And I was touched by the Reverend Father Weiss's invocation. And I want to ask today that we now take a little political look to the fall.

I'll tell you something. I came out of that Houston Convention, and the whole spirit around this country is different. I am determined to win this election and I'm determined to do it fair and square. (Applause.) And if I hadn't been fired up when I walked in here The Company -- that great music -- would have got it going, I'll tell you. That was fantastic. I don't even know where they are. (Applause.)

But anyway, we're looking ahead to a great classic that takes place this fall. I'm not talking about Ansonia versus Derby -- (laughter) -- I'm talking about the November 3rd contest. And that does have a lot to do with the direction of this country, and also the new century beyond.

I heard my grandson speak at our convention and I was so very proud of that young kid. And I think -- (applause) -- and it just reminded me on a very personal basis of what the Reverend Father was talking about and the job that lies ahead of us, to make life better for all.

Now, we have witnessed, as I pointed out down there, a world of change from Managua to Moscow. Millions of men and women now turn towards freedom. They're celebrating a new birth of freedom. And I believe people right here in the valley, many of whom came here from other countries, many of whom family came here, understand what I'm talking about when I say this nation can take pride in the freedom of others. (Applause.)

Many right in this room, because of family -- not just because of freedom and democracy -- because of family, prayed for this day of freedom to come to Eastern Europe, to Russia, to the countries south of our border. And we've

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witnessed this remarkable change. And this miracle has come true.

And so now the challenge for this country is to bring that spirit home, from Warsaw, Poland to Warsaw Park, and to focus this great nation on the mission ahead. (Applause.) We have literally changed the world with the help of the taxpayer, Presidents who preceded me, fighting men and women that have served this great country with distinction -- we've changed the world. And now we must change America for the better. (Applause.)

And our challenge quite simply is to win the global economic challenge, to win the peace. Be a military superpower, an economic superpower, an export superpower. And in this election you're going to hear two very different visions of how to do this. Theirs is to turn inward and protect; and ours is to look outward and open new markets and prepare our people to compete -- (applause.) To save and invest. And when I'm talking about investment, I don't mean more taxpayer money going into government investment. I mean more private investment, small business investment. (Applause.)

I don't want to get too personal in this wonderful area that I understand has some wonderfully smart Democrats because I need you guys in the fall. But let me say this, that my opponent has spent most of his adult life in government, and that's pretty much all he knows about. But his idea about creating jobs is to have government jobs -- public payroll jobs. And I come at things a different way. I spent -- I computed it the other day -- half of my adult life in government service, one kind or another; and half in the private sector. And long before I was in the public sector I worked for a living out in the oil fields of West Texas, built a company, and did what many here has in small or larger operations -- I met a payroll, I took risks, and I made it work. And I happen to think having held a job is not a bad qualification even for President of the United States of America. (Applause.)

Look, the world economy is changing. And we've got to be in the lead of that change. Think of the economic changes you've seen right here in Ansonia from moving from that brass and copper age, in the mills along the Naugatuck, to the new corporate headquarters in the industrial parks across the valley. Right now one in every six American manufacturing jobs is tied directly to exports. And that doesn't count the economic ripple effect created when those workers paid mortgages or buy a car or feed the kids.

Since '88, since 1988, three-fifths of the economic growth has come from people in other countries buying what we do best -- the products we make right here in America. We are the best manufacturers in the world, and don't let anybody tell you -- (applause) -- don't you let that gloomy opposition tell you we can't compete or say that we're a nation in decline. We are not.

And as President I'm working now to create jobs, new markets -- markets in Moscow, markets in Mexico City that mean new American jobs. And I am convinced that the answer is not to build a wall around our economy, not to put the government in charge, but to use the government to help you literally go back to work in this country. And that's what I want to tell you how I'm going to do it. (Applause.)

Here are some of what we stand for: Open markets for American products. Here's one we have a big difference on -- lower government spending and tax relief. Not spend and tax, tax relief, and less federal government spending. (Applause.) And the other one is opportunities for small business. We've got to do better getting the regulatory burden off the back of these Mom and Pop, these small operators. And we're going to keep doing it until we get that job done. (Applause.)

You know my feeling about how -- too many lawsuits in this country. I've been fighting to change that, blocked by this gridlocked Congress. We sue each other too much. We care for each other too little. And we've got to break the back of those that are breaking this country with these damn lawsuits. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Clean House.

THE PRESIDENT: I'll get to that. And new schools -- and I know we've got some teachers here, and God bless them. But I'll tell you something. We need new schools to back up these teachers, new ideas. Our whole program, America 2000, is a good program, to literally revolutionize how we bring our kids into the next century. It's an exciting program. And I might say, we've got to win this fight on narcotics. Teenage use of cocaine is down, but we've just begun to fight. We've got to win it. Clean out these schoolyards. (Applause.)

You know, a big difference is -- a big one -- I do believe that we -- they're too big, government, and spend too much. And last week I offered an idea to get the deficit down. We'll give you a special box -- I believe that people should have it -- a special box on that tax return to check so that up to 10 percent of your income tax can go for one purpose, and that is to reduce the budget deficit. If Congress doesn't like it -- all these editorials that you read around here on some of these sophisticated journals don't like it -- but the Congress has failed to do it. So let's give the people a chance to check that box, and then we have to live with it. (Applause.)

And then there's something that's very important to the valley that I talked about today in Union, New Jersey -- a dramatic new approach to job training, to help young people find that first job -- a program we call the Youth Training Corps; to get inner-city kids off the mean streets and get them a second chance to build the skills they need to succeed. For older workers who have lost their jobs or worried that the next pay envelope may have a pink slip, we've developed a new concept called Skill Grants -- vouchers worth \$3,000 to be used towards the training program of their choice. And our plan is based on empowering people to get the kind of training they want, not empowering the bureaucracies to hire more people. And that is a very different approach than the approach the others are taking. (Applause.)

The Governor of Arkansas says he's all for free enterprise. Then he proposes right out of the box the largest tax increase in history -- much of it on the back of small business. I learned the hard way -- holding out my hand to that gridlocked Congress and they bit it off. Once you make one mistake you don't make it again. I am not going to go forward and go with these programs of spending and taxing. (Applause.)

We've literally proposed -- and it's before Congress right now -- eliminating over 200 programs and 4,000 projects. It's there, it's put down in detail. It's before this gridlocked Congress. And we've got to do something about changing the Congress. If we had more people like Gary Franks, we wouldn't have a gridlock problem. (Applause.) But the Congress has been controlled -- they have been controlled by the same party for 38 years. Everything else has changed in the country -- not the House of Representatives. Help me change the House. Clean it -- clean the House. (Applause.)

My opponent says he's for fiscal responsibility. He's against a balanced budget amendment. Says he's for a line-item veto, but the gridlocked Congress refuses to give it to the President. And I stand for something different. I want to see us cut that federal spending with the help of a new Congress; get the taxes down so we can get the economy stimulated and let people keep a little more of what they earn. It's a big

philosophical difference between the Bush-Quayle ticket on the one hand and Clinton-Gore on the other. Look at it, it is fundamentally different.

Now, in this campaign, we've got to call it as we see it. And this year I believe the choice is very clear. We've got two different -- fundamentally different approaches. I believe in the government. You get all this talk -- government, government -- of the government, by the government, for the government. That's not going to get the job done. We are fighting against that because we happen to believe still that the power should flow from the people. So it's of the people, by the people and for the people. And really, what's at stake here is the future of this country.

And we're in choppy waters. I heard the Reverend. I know it. People that are hurting and can't find jobs when they need it. I'll tell you another area we've got a big difference -- on the defense spending. I have cut defense, but we're not going to cut into the muscle of the defense. The other side wants to take \$60 billion more than Colin Powell and Cheney tell me is the right level. We still have a tough world out there. We must still be strong. And while you're thinking about it, we don't needlessly need to throw another million defense workers out of work by cutting back on defense below the levels needed for national security. (Applause.)

Let me just tell you, I wish Barbara Bush were here. This would be great for her morale -- (applause) -- this would be great for her spirits. (Applause.)

But I'll tell you something. I want to be serious about this one point. When I drove in here today -- and I've been here as some of you know many, many times. My dad was a Senator from this state, and we grew up down the way. Leave out the politics for just a minute. When I came in here this morning, a lot of the people out there were waving. I'm sure they were not for me. They were there because I am privileged to be the President of the United States of America.

But you sense something else out there along the highway. You sense this community feeling and this feeling of family. And I want to tell you something. The cynics, the liberal theoreticians, they can ridicule me all they want when I talk about family values. But this one transcends Democrat. It transcends Republican. And it gets to the heart of what our community is about. And the community has been diminished by the decimation and sometimes the decline of the American family.

I saw it today, that family spirit is still strong. And I just want to pledge to you, I am not going to get off talking about that because we must find ways -- whether it's welfare reform, whether it's making the fathers that run away stay there, whether it's helping, as Barbara does, hold someone in the arms to demonstrate the compassion and love we feel for our fellow man -- we've got to find ways to strengthen the American family. It is not demagoguery -- it's fundamental to America. (Applause.)

And she and I will continue to try to do our level best to set a level of decency and honor and, hopefully, trust there in the Oval Office and there in the White House.

Thank you very much for this wonderful reception. And may God bless the Naugatuck Valley. And may God bless the United States of America. (Applause.)

END

2:25 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Dallas, Texas)

For Immediate Release

August 22, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT NATIONAL AFFAIRS BRIEFING

Dallas Convention Center
Dallas, Texas

9:25 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Hey, listen, this is a nonpolitical gathering. Thank you. It's simply -- life is not fair. For me to get up here, after Dr. Adrian Rogers, one of the great religious leaders of this country -- it just doesn't seem fair. Adrian, thank you, sir, for that introduction. I mean, seven standing ovations in the introduction -- my heavens, what's going on here? (Laughter.)

But I am so pleased to be here. I have great respect for the man that did the introducing -- and so many here with us tonight. I'd like to recognize a true fighter for the American family. I heard him when Barbara and I were standing in the wings -- we heard him. And I'm talking about one of this nation's truly great and, I would say, spiritual governors, Governor John Ashcroft from Missouri. (Applause.) He gets it on his own and also from his wonderful dad that is so well known to, I'm sure, many people here.

Thanks to Denee Varnum for that singing, and the First Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra for that assist on The Battle Hymn of the Republic. And may I salute -- I think Congressman Sam Johnson of Dallas and Dick Army of the neighboring district are here with us tonight; both doing a superb job. (Applause.)

And, of course, another old friend for Barbara and me, now doing a superb job for this city, Mayor Steve Bartlett. You're lucky to have him -- you Dallas folks are lucky to have him as your leader. (Applause.)

And in my line of work, loyalty and friendship really count. And I want to single out Dr. Jerry Falwell, who is with us tonight because he sure fits that description as far as the Bush family goes. (Applause.) And I'm sorry that I missed Dr. E.V. Hill who -- I was with him in his church in South Central out there in Los Angeles. I understand he just wowed them here tonight. But here's a real man of the cloth and a man I respect enormously. I wish he were here now. (Applause.)

And, of course, special thanks to our organizer and wonderfully dedicated chairman, Ed McAteer. (Applause.) A man who I was sitting next to, he and I go back many, many years out here in Texas, and he was reminding me of a meeting we had some 36 years ago out in West Texas -- Ed Drake, chairman of the National NAB. Or is he the local chairman? Which are you? Local chairman -- all right. And Dr. Jack Graham, the chairman of the Ministerial Committee.

And let me just say it's a pleasure to be here. And I've got a very difficult assignment; I plan to fulfill it to the letter. I was told that this is a nonpolitical event. We're just coming off of a fantastic campaign swing, so I'm going to

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cool it down, though, and talk about things that I think are near and dear to our hearts.

You see, we meet tonight at a time of great change. It's exciting change -- makes me wish I was about 40 years younger at times. In both the world and our nation this change is exciting. And changes are taking place and they literally defy the imagination. I remember 10 years ago, when one of God's great soldiers, a friend to all here, I'm sure, visited Europe and the Soviet Union. And returning to America, Dr. Billy Graham predicted that freedom would outlast tyranny. He'd sensed something as he traveled across that monolithic communist empire.

And the doubters said he'd been tricked. But Dr. Graham -- Billy -- knew something they didn't. He knew the chains of oppression forged by men were no match to the keys to salvation forged by God. (Applause.) And over the past three-and-a-half years bayonets have been no match for the righteousness of God.

Now, look to Bulgaria, where at last people wish Merry Christmas not only in the privacy of their homes, but in public, in the streets. Look to Russia, where a cathedral that was called the All Union Museum of Religion and Atheism now houses God's Apostles. Or the former East Germany, where Bible studies are like bluebonnets in Texas in the spring. They're busting out all over. (Applause.)

In a season of thanksgiving the world says grace. And by God's providence the Cold War is over and freedom finished first. (Applause.) And because of the changes that have been wrought outside our nation, our children and our grandchildren now sleep in the sweet sunshine of peace. And now it is our challenge, it is our sacred challenge to build for them a nation that is as secure from the inside as it is safe from the outside. (Applause.)

I met not long ago with some of the mayors of our great cities in this country. It was the directors or the executive board of the National League of Cities. And I asked what was the root of the ills with which they are afflicted in these cities. Problems like crime, drug abuse, unemployment. And they could have complained of the lack of government money, but they didn't. They could have complained at the lack of government programs, but they didn't.

These mayors, including those from the other party, liberal, conservative, Republican, Democrat, large city, small city, said that all their problems could be traced to the breakdown of the American family. (Applause.) And I would simply add to that, an erosion of traditional moral and religious values on which our very nation was founded. (Applause.) And some want us to get away from that -- some want us to get off of that theme, get away from that. I simply cannot do it. It is too fundamental -- leave out the election -- it is fundamental that we restore and strengthen the American family. (Applause.)

Now, this week you saw a very charismatic, dynamic, insightful Bush family member appear on television and talk to the nation. I'm speaking, of course, of our First Lady, Barbara. (Applause.) And by the way, I recall the Book of Proverbs said that "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged." Well, while I wouldn't quite put myself up there with the aged yet -- some will, but I don't put myself there -- I must tell you I felt like I was wearing a crown the other night when I listened to one of our grandkids, George P., speak to this nation. (Applause.)

This is a family night here, and I hope you'll understand how emotional Barbara and I felt when we saw this little guy get up. I asked him ahead of time, "Are you scared?" Oh, no, no, he wasn't scared at all. But he carried it off well, and he spoke from the heart.

And then yesterday, we were over in Gulfport, Mississippi, and then at this marvelous country music town of Branson, Missouri, and we saw a sign, "George P. in 2024. Viva Bush." It's wonderful -- (applause.)

But you know, in a tough political year -- it's been pretty tough, let's face it. And all the criticism, but it all subsides. It all gets into proper perspective when you see your own grandkid up there, and can take pride in what your family does.

You know, Barbara in her speech said something I remember. She said, "To us, family means putting your arms around each other, and being there." Now, those are truly words of insight and wisdom. And when I speak of family values, of restoring a little moral and religious fiber to our nation's diet, my opponents accuse me of mouthing slogans.

But it is no slogan that America remains the most resolutely religious nation on God's great Earth. And it is no slogan to say that America will always occupy a special place in God's heart. (Applause.) But that is true only as long as we keep Him in a special place in our hearts. (Applause.)

And so I believe that now that the world has become more like America, it is time for America to become more like herself. And that means strengthening the American family and, yes, it means increasing our faith in God. (Applause.)

Government policy can make a difference. And that's why I fought for changes -- some that Steve was generous enough to talk about -- in our welfare laws to encourage families to stay together; fathers to stick around; children to be able to save a little money when their mother's on welfare so they can get themselves educated. We've got to change the way the old welfare system has worked.

And when Congress was considering a new law giving parents help with child care, I fought to make sure that parents would be able to choose the child care provider of their choice. (Applause.) And I fought especially hard and we were successful on this one, to allow care provided in religious settings. We had to fight, but we won that fight. (Applause.)

You see, when it comes to deciding who should care for children when parents are working, I believe government doesn't know best; parents know best; parents should choose. (Applause.)

The same is true of education. I have spoken often of roots and wings. Wings, of course, are the subjects our children learn -- math, science, English -- that allow them to make their way in our complex world economy. But just as important are the roots, the moral values taught around the kitchen table or in our churches. And, yes, as Dr. Rogers said, I believe, in our schools. (Applause.) For without roots our children will never find the moral and good direction.

Many parents want their children to attend religious schools, but they simply can't afford it. And so I am fighting for a G.I. Bill for Children. It will give federal money to working parents so that they can choose the best school for their children. And the choice should include all schools -- public, private, and religious. (Applause.)

I happen to believe that, just as we fix our economy and improve our schools, we've got to strengthen our moral foundation. And I could make one political comment, I was struck by the fact that the other party took words to put together their platform but left out three simple letters -- God. As you may have heard, Governor Casey of Pennsylvania was also shut out of the convention because he wanted to talk about the rights of the unborn. At least he's in good company. My party's platform is

different. We are proud to celebrate our country's Judeo-Christian heritage unrivaled in the world. (Applause.)

And while you're still standing may I say -- (laughter) -- as I said I happen to believe that all human life is precious, born or unborn. (Applause.)

And I think it's ridiculous that a 13-year-old girl here in Dallas has to get her mother's permission to get her ears pierced in a mall, but can get an abortion without telling her mom and dad. (Applause.) That doesn't make sense to me. And I don't believe it makes sense to most Americans. (Applause.)

And something's wrong when kids can get birth control in school, but can't say a prayer in school. (Applause.) And if Congress can debate the merits of Vanna White appearing on the Home Shopping Network, surely, Congress can find enough time to pass an amendment to allow our kids to thank God. And so I call on the Congress again, and I'll keep calling on them to pass a constitutional amendment allowing voluntary prayer. (Applause.) Let us bring the faith of our fathers back to schools.

These are the kinds of issues that I care about and, certainly, I know you care about. And so I'm not going to be dissuaded by the critics who call family values a cliché, who say that family values have no place in our national debate. I will ignore those who would rather not talk about a moral revival in America because I believe it is as important as any other challenge that we face. (Applause.)

And Barbara and I have crisscrossed the country today. Started out in Missouri, went to Georgia, spent our afternoon in Birmingham, Alabama, where a crowd of 20,000 people were kind enough to wait in the rain to see us. And as we came out on the stage, singer Lee Greenwood was just beginning that marvelous anthem you know -- a beautiful version of the song, "I'm Proud To Be An American."

And as I looked over the crowd -- the rain was pouring down, falling -- and I saw a little girl with blond ringlets perched upon her dad's shoulders. And she had a little ball cap on her head, an American flag in one hand. And as Lee Greenwood began to sing she began to wave the flag and I looked and in her other hand she had scrawled a sign. And all the rain had smudged the ink, but I could still make out the words "I love America. America loves God." (Applause.)

And that little girl will grow up in a world filled with miracle medicines, a world where all the volumes of all the books in the Library of Congress will be able to be stored on one tiny little disk. And while scientific progress is good, it is my fervent hope that she will also come of age in a nation where family is always first and where the Creator is worshipped above all else. (Applause.) And that is what has made America the greatest nation on God's Earth. And it is our faith which will guarantee that the sun never sets on our nation.

I'm just delighted to have been with you. Thank you for inviting us. And may God bless this most wondrous land on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. (Applause.) Thank you very, very much.

END

9:45 P.M. CDT

MORE

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

For Immediate Release

August 20, 1992

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

Houston Astrodome
Houston, Texas

9:20 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Thank you, thank you very much. And I am proud to receive, and I am honored to accept your nomination for President of the United States. (Applause.)

May I thank my dear friend and our great leader, Bob Dole, for that wonderful introduction. (Applause.)

Let me say this: This nomination is not for me alone. It is for the ideas, principles, and values that we stand for.

My job -- my job has been made easier by a leader who's taken a lot of unfair criticism, with grace and humor -- the Vice President of the United States, Dan Quayle. (Applause.) And I am very grateful to him.

I want to talk tonight about the sharp choice that I intend to offer Americans this fall -- a choice between different agendas, different directions, and, yes, a choice about the character of the man you want to lead this nation..

I know that Americans have many questions -- about our economy, about our country's future, even questions about me. And I'll answer them tonight.

First, I feel great. (Applause.) And I am heartened -- I'm heartened by the polls -- the ones that say that I look better in my jogging shorts than the Governor of Arkansas! (Applause.)

Four years ago, I spoke about missions -- for my life and for our country. I spoke of one urgent mission -- defending our security and promoting the American ideal abroad.

Just pause for a moment to reflect on what we've done.

Germany is united -- and a slab of the Berlin Wall sits right outside this Astrodome. (Applause.)

Arabs and Israelis now sit face-to-face and talk peace.

Every hostage held in Lebanon is free. (Applause.)

The conflict in El Salvador is over, and free elections brought democracy to Nicaragua. (Applause.)

Black and white South Africans cheered each other at the Olympics.

The Soviet Union can only be found in history books.

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The captive nations of Eastern Europe and the Baltics are captive no more.

And today on the rural streets of Poland, merchants sell cans of air labeled: The last breath of communism. (Applause.)

If I had stood before you four years ago and described this as the world we would help to build, you would have said: "George Bush, you must have been smoking something, and you must have inhaled." (Applause.)

This convention is the first at which an American President can say the Cold War is over, and freedom finished first. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA, USA, USA, USA --

THE PRESIDENT: Some want to rewrite history, want to skip over the struggle, claim the outcome was inevitable. And while the U.S. postwar strategy was largely bipartisan, the fact remains that the liberal, McGovern wing of the other party -- including my opponent -- consistently made the wrong choices. (Applause.)

In the 70s, they wanted a hollow army -- we wanted a strong fighting force.

In the 80s -- and you remember this one -- in the '80s, they wanted a nuclear freeze -- and we insisted on peace through strength. (Applause.)

From Angola to Central America -- they said, "Let's negotiate, deliberate, procrastinate." We said -- just stand up for freedom.

Now the Cold War is over and they claim, "Hey, we were with you all the way!"

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: You know, their behavior -- really, their behavior reminds me of the old con man's advice to the new kid. He said, "Son, if you're being run out of town, just get out in front and make it look like a parade." (Applause.)

Well, make no mistake -- the demise of communism wasn't a sure thing, it took the strong leadership of presidents from both parties, including Republicans like Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. (Applause.) And without their vision and the support of the American people, the Soviet Union would be a strong superpower today and we'd be facing a nuclear threat tonight.

My opponents say I spend too much time on foreign policy, as if it didn't matter that schoolchildren once hid under their desks in drills to prepare for nuclear war. I saw the chance to rid our children's dreams of the nuclear nightmare, and I did. (Applause.) Over the past four years, more people have breathed the fresh air of freedom than in all of human history. I saw a chance to help, and I did. (Applause.) These were the two defining opportunities -- not of a year, not of a decade, but of an entire span of human history.

I seized those opportunities for our kids and our grandkids, and I make no apologies for that. (Applause.)

Now, the Soviet bear may be gone, but there are still wolves in the woods. We saw that when Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. The Mideast might have become a nuclear powder keg -- our energy supplies held hostage. So we did what was right and what was necessary. We destroyed a threat, freed a

people, and locked a tyrant in the prison of his own country.
(Applause.)

What about the leader of the Arkansas National Guard -- the man who hopes to be Commander-In-Chief? Well, I bit the bullet, and he bit his nails. (Applause.)

Listen to this now. Two days after Congress followed my lead, my opponent said this, and I quote directly: "I guess I would have voted with the majority if it was a close vote. But I agree with the arguments the minority made."

Now, sounds to me like his policy can be summed up by a road sign he's probably seen on his bus tour, "Slippery When Wet." (Applause.)

Look, this is serious business.

Think about the impact of our foreign policy failures the last time the Democrats controlled both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue. Gas lines. Grain embargoes. American hostages blindfolded.

There will be more foreign policy challenges like Kuwait in the next four years. Terrorists and aggressors to stand up to; dangerous weapons to be controlled and destroyed. And freedom's fight is not finished. And I look forward to being the first President to visit a free, democratic Cuba.
(Applause.)

Who will lead the world in the face of these challenges? Not my opponent. In his acceptance speech he devoted just 65 seconds to telling us about the world.

Then he said that America was -- and I quote again -- I want to be fair and factual -- I quote, being "ridiculed" everywhere. Well, tell that to the people around the world, for whom America is still a dream. Tell that to leaders around the world, from whom America commands respect. (Applause.) Ridiculed? Tell that to the men and women of Desert Storm.
(Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA, USA, USA, USA --

THE PRESIDENT: Let me just make an aside comment here, because of what you've been reading in the paper. This is a political year, but there's a lot of danger in the world. You can be sure I will never let politics interfere with a foreign policy decision. Forget the election; I will do right -- what is right for the national security of the United States of America. And that is a pledge from my heart. (Applause.)

Fifty years ago this summer, I was 18 years of age. I see some young people in the audience tonight, and I remember how I felt in those days. (Applause.) I believed deeply in this country, and we were faced with a world war. So I made a decision, to go off and fight a battle much different from political battles.

And I was scared, but I was willing. I was young, but I was ready. I had barely lived when I began to watch men die. I began to see the special place of America in the world. And I began to see, even then, that the world would become a much smaller place, and faraway places could become more and more like America.

And 50 years later, after change of almost biblical proportions, we know that when freedom grows, America grows. Just as a strong America means a safer world, we have learned that a safer world means a stronger America. (Applause.)

This election is about change. But that's not unusual, because the American revolution is never ending. Today, the pace of change is accelerating. We face new opportunities and new challenges. The question is -- who do you trust to make change work for you?

AUDIENCE: George Bush! George Bush! George Bush!

THE PRESIDENT: My opponent says America is a nation in decline. Of our economy he says, we are somewhere on the list beneath Germany, heading south toward Sri Lanka.

Well, don't let anyone tell you that America is second-rate, especially somebody running for president.
(Applause.)

Maybe he hasn't heard that we are still the world's largest economy. No other nation sells more outside its borders. The Germans, the British, the Japanese can't touch the productivity of you -- the American worker and the American farmer. (Applause.) My opponent won't mention that. He won't remind you that interest rates are the lowest they've been in 20 years, and millions of Americans have refinanced their homes. (Applause.) And you just won't hear that inflation -- the thief of the middle-class -- has been locked in a maximum security prison.

You don't hear much about this good news because the media also tends to focus only on the bad. When the Berlin Wall fell, I half expected to see a headline: "Wall Falls, Three Border Guards Lose Jobs." (Laughter.) And underneath it probably says: "Clinton Blames Bush." (Laughter.)

You don't hear a lot about progress in America. So let me tell you about some good things we've done together.

Just two weeks ago, all three nations of North America agreed to trade freely from Manitoba to Mexico. This will bring good jobs to Main Street USA. (Applause.)

We passed the Americans With Disabilities Act -- bringing 43 million people into the economic mainstream. I must say, it's about time. (Applause.)

Our children will breathe easier because of our new Clean Air Act.

We are rebuilding our roads, providing jobs for more than half a million Americans.

We passed a child care law, and we took a stand for family values by saying that when it comes to raising children, government doesn't know best, parents know best. (Applause.)

I've fought against prejudice and anti-Semitism all my life. And I am proud that we strengthened our civil rights laws -- and we did it without resorting to quotas. (Applause.)

And one more thing of vital importance to all. Today, cocaine use has fallen by 60 percent among young people. To the teenagers, the parents and the volunteers who are helping us battle the scourge of drugs in America, we say, thank you; thank you from the bottom of our hearts. (Applause.)

Do I want to do more? You bet. Nothing hurts me more than to meet with soldiers home from the Persian Gulf who can't find a job; or workers who have a job, but worry that the next day will bring a pink slip. And what about parents who scrape and struggle to send their kids to college, only to find them back living at home, because they can't get work.

The world is in transition, and we are feeling that transition in our homes. The defining challenge of the '90s is to win the economic competition -- to win the peace.

We must be a military superpower, an economic superpower, and an export superpower. (Applause.)

In this election, you'll hear two versions of how to do this. Theirs is to look inward, and protect what we already have. Ours is to look forward -- to open new markets, prepare our people to compete, to restore our social fabric -- to save and invest -- so we can win. (Applause.)

We believe that now that the world looks more like America, it's time for America to look more like herself. And so we offer a philosophy that puts faith in the individual, not the bureaucracy. A philosophy that empowers people to do their best, so America can be at its best. In a world that is safer and freer, this is how we will build an America that is stronger, safer and more secure.

We start with a simple fact: Government is too big, and spends too much. (Applause.)

I've asked Congress to put a lid on mandatory spending except Social Security. And I've proposed doing away with over 200 programs and 4,000 wasteful projects and to freeze all other spending. (Applause.)

The gridlock Democrat Congress said: "No."

AUDIENCE: Boooo --

THE PRESIDENT: So, beginning tonight, I will enforce the spending freeze on my own. And if Congress sends me a bill spending more than I asked for in my budget, I will veto it fast. (Applause.) Veto it fast -- faster than copies of Millie's book sold.

Now, Congress won't cut spending, but refuses to give the President the power to eliminate pork barrel projects that waste your money. Forty-three governors have that power. So I ask you, the American people: Give me a Congress that will give me the line-item veto. (Applause.)

Let me tell you about a recent battle I fought with the Congress, a battle in which I was aided by Bob Michel and his troops, and Bob Dole and his. This spring, I worked day and night to get two-thirds of the House members to approve a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

We almost had it, but we lost by just nine votes. Now, listen how. Just before the vote, the liberal leaders of the Congress convinced 12 members who cosponsored the bill, to switch sides and vote no. Keep in mind, they voted against a bill they had already put their names on.

Something fishy is going on. And look at my opponent on this issue. Look at my opponent. He says he's for balanced budgets. But he came out against the amendment. He's like that on a lot of issues, first one side, then the other. He's been spotted in more places than Elvis Presley. (Applause.)

After all these years, Congress has become pretty creative at finding ways to waste your money. So we need to be just as creative at finding ways to stop them. I have a brand new idea. Taxpayers should be given the right to check a box on their tax returns, so that up to 10 percent of their payments can go for one purpose alone: to reduce the national debt. (Applause.)

But we also need to make sure -- we need to make sure that Congress doesn't just turn around and borrow more money to spend more money. So I will require that for every tax dollar set aside to cut the debt, the ceilings on spending will be cut by an equal amount. (Applause.) That way, we will cut both debt and spending, and take a whack out of the budget deficit. (Applause.)

My feelings about big government come from my experience; I spent half my adult life in the private sector. My opponent has a different experience, he's been in government nearly all his life. His passion to expand government knows no bounds.

He's already proposed -- and listen to this carefully -- he has already proposed \$220 billion in new spending, along with the biggest tax increase in history -- \$150 billion dollars -- and that's just to start.

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: He says he wants to tax the rich, but, folks, he defines rich as anyone who has a job. (Laughter.)

You've heard of the separations of powers. Well, my opponent practices a different theory: the power of separations. Government has the power to separate you from your wallet. (Laughter.)

Now let me say this: When it comes to taxes, I've learned the hard way. There's an old saying: "Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment."

Two years ago, I made a bad call on the Democrats' tax increase. I underestimated Congress's addiction to taxes. With my back against the wall, I agreed to a hard bargain: One tax increase one time in return for the toughest spending limits ever.

Well, it was a mistake to go along with the Democratic tax increase. (Applause.) And I admit it. But here's the question for the American people. Who do you trust in this election? The candidate who raised taxes one time and regrets it, or the other candidate who raised taxes and fees 128 times, and enjoyed it every time? (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Viva Bush! Viva Bush!

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: Hit 'em again, harder, harder. Hit 'em again, harder, harder --

THE PRESIDENT: When the new Congress convenes next January, I will propose to further reduce taxes across the board -- provided we pay for these cuts with specific spending reductions that I consider appropriate, so that we do not increase the deficit. (Applause.) I will also continue to fight to increase the personal exemption and to create jobs by winning a cut in capital gains taxes. (Applause.)

That will especially help small businesses. You know, they create -- small businesses -- they create two-thirds of the new jobs in America. But my opponent's plan for small business is clear, present -- and dangerous. Beside new income taxes, his plan will lead to a new payroll tax to pay for a government takeover of health care, and another new tax to pay for training. And that is just the beginning.

And if he gets his way, hardware stores across America will have a new sign up: "Closed for despair." And I

guess you'd say his plan really is "Elvis Economics." America will be checking into the "Heartbreak Hotel." (Applause.)

I believe that small business needs relief -- from taxation, regulation, and litigation. (Applause.)

And, thus, I will extend for one year the freeze on paperwork and unnecessary federal regulation that I imposed last winter. (Applause.) There is no reason -- there is no reason that federal regulations should live longer than my friend George Burns. I will issue an order to get rid of any rule whose time has come -- and gone.

I see something happening in our towns and in our neighborhoods. Sharp lawyers are running wild. Doctors are afraid to practice medicine. And some moms and pops won't even coach Little League any more. We must sue each other less -- and care for each other more. (Applause.)

I am fighting to reform our legal system, to put an end to crazy lawsuits. And if that means climbing into the ring with the trial lawyers, well, let me just say, round one starts tonight. (Applause.)

After all, my opponent's campaign is being backed by practically every trial lawyer who ever wore a tasselled loafer. (Applause.) He's not in the ring with them, he's in the tank.

There are other things we need to do to get our economy up to speed -- prepare our kids for the next century. We must have new incentives for research, and new training for workers. Small businesses need capital and credit, and defense workers need new jobs. And I have a plan to provide affordable health care for every American, controlling costs by cutting paperwork and lawsuits, and expanding coverage to the poorest of the poor.

We do not need my opponent's plan for a massive government takeover of health care, which would ration care and deny you the right to choose the doctor. (Applause.) Who wants a health care -- who wants health care with a system with the efficiency of the House Post Office, and the compassion of the KGB?

What about our schools? What about our schools? My opponent and I both want to change the way our kids learn. He wants to change our schools a little bit, and I want to change them a lot.

Take the issue of whether parents should be able to choose the best school for their kids. My opponent says that's okay -- as long as the school is run by government. And I say every parent and child should have a real choice of schools -- public, private or religious. (Applause.)

So we have a clear choice to fix our problems. Do we turn to the tattered blanket of bureaucracy that other nations are tossing away? Or do we give our people the freedom and incentives to build security for themselves?

Here's what I'm fighting for.

- Open markets for American products,
- lower government spending,
- tax relief,
- opportunities for small business,
- legal and health reform,

-- job training,

-- and new schools built on competition, ready for the 21st century. (Applause.)

Why are these proposals not in effect today? Only one reason -- the gridlock Democratic Congress. (Applause.) It's a very good idea -- a very good idea.

Now, I know Americans are tired of the blame game, tired of people in Washington acting like they're candidates for the next episode of American Gladiators. I don't like it, either. Neither should you. But the truth is the truth. Our policies have not failed, they haven't even been tried. (Applause.)

Americans want jobs. And on January 28th, I put before Congress a plan to create jobs. And if it had been passed back then, 500,000 more Americans would be at work right now. But in a nation that demands action -- Congress has become the master of inaction.

It wasn't always this way. I heard President Ford tonight. I served in Congress 22 years ago, under him. And, back then, we cooperated, we didn't get personal, we put the people above everything else. Heck, we didn't even own blow dryers back in those days.

At my first inauguration -- I said that people didn't send us to bicker. I extended my hand -- and I think the American people know this -- I extended my hand to the congressional leaders, to the Democratic leaders -- and they bit it.

The House leadership has not changed in 38 years. It is a body caught in a hopelessly tangled web of PACs, perks, privileges, partnership, and paralysis. (Applause.) Every day, Congress puts politics ahead of principle, and above progress.

Now, let me give you just one example. February 20th, 1991. It was at the height of the Gulf War. On that very same day, I asked American pilots to risk their lives to fly missions over Baghdad. And I also wanted to strengthen our economic security for the future. So that very same day, I introduced a new domestic energy strategy which would cut our dependence on foreign oil by 7 million barrels a day.

How many days did it take to win the Gulf War? Forty-three. How many did it take Congress to pass a national energy strategy? Five hundred and thirty-two -- and still counting. (Applause.) I have ridden stationary bikes that can move faster than the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, controlled by the Democrat leadership. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Hit 'em again, hit 'em again, harder, harder.

THE PRESIDENT: I'm fixing to. (Applause.) Where does my opponent stand with Congress? Well, up in New York at their convention, they kept the congressional leaders away from the podium -- hid them away. And they didn't want America to hear from the people who really make the decisions. They hid them for a very good reason -- because the American people would recognize a dangerous combination: A rubber check Congress -- and a rubber stamp President. (Applause.)

Governor Clinton and Congress know that you've caught on to their lingo. They know when they say, "spending," you say -- "uh-oh." So now they have a new word, "investment." They want to "invest" \$220 billion more of your money -- but I want you to keep it. (Applause.)

Governor Clinton and Congress want to put through the largest tax increase in history, but I will not let that happen. (Applause.) And Governor Clinton and Congress don't want kids to have the option of praying in school, but I do. (Applause.) Clinton and Congress don't want to close legal loopholes and keep criminals behind bars, but I will. (Applause.) Clinton and Congress will stock the Judiciary with liberal judges who write laws they can't get approved by the voters.

Governor Clinton even says that Mario Cuomo belongs on the Supreme Court. (Laughter.) Wait a minute, though. No, wait. Maybe not a bad idea. If you believe in judicial restraint, you probably ought to be happy. After all, the good Governor of New York can't make up his mind between chocolate and vanilla at Baskin Robbins. (Applause.) He's there, we won't have another court decision for 35 years. And maybe that's all right, too.

Are my opponent and Congress really in cahoots? Look at one important question: Should we limit the terms of Congress?

AUDIENCE: Yes. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Governor Clinton says, no. Congress says, no. I say: Yes. (Applause.)

We tried this -- look, we tried this once before, combining the Democratic governor of a small southern state, with a very liberal vice president, and a Democratic Congress. America does not need "Carter II." (Applause.) We do not want to take America back to those days of malaise. But Americans want to know -- where's proof that we will have better days in Washington?

I'll give you 150 reasons. And that's how many members of Congress are expected to leave Washington this year. Some are tainted by scandal -- the voters have bounced them the way they bounced their own checks. But others are good members. Republican and Democrat. And they agree with me -- the place just doesn't work anymore.

One hundred-fifty new members -- from both parties -- will be coming to Washington this fall. And every one will have a fresh view of America's future.

I pledge today to the American people, immediately after this election, I will meet with every one of these members, before they get attacked by the PACs, overwhelmed by their staffs, and cornered by some camera crew. (Applause.) And I will lay out my case for change. Change that matters, real change that makes a difference. Change that is right for America.

You see, there is a yearning in America, a feeling that maybe it's time to get back to our roots.

Sure we must change, but some values are timeless. I believe in families that stick together, fathers who stick around. And I happen to believe very deeply in the worth of each individual human being, born or unborn. (Applause.) And I believe in teaching our kids the difference between what's wrong and what's right, teaching them respect for hard work and to love their neighbors. And I believe that America will always have a special place in God's heart, as long as he has a special place in ours. (Applause.) And maybe that's why I've always believed that patriotism is not just another point of view.

There are times in every young person's life when God introduces you to yourself. And I remember such a time. It

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was back many years ago, when I stood watch at 4 a.m.. up on the bridge of a submarine, the United States Finback -- U.S.S. Finback. And I would stand there and look out on the blackness of the sky, broken only by the sparkling stars above. And I would think about friends I lost, a country I loved, and about a girl named Barbara. (Applause.) And I remember -- I remember those nights as clearly as any in my life.

You know, you can see things from up there that other people don't see. You can see storm clouds rise and then disappear. The first hint of the sun over the horizon, and the first outline of the shore faraway.

Now, I know that Americans are uneasy today. There is anxious talk around our kitchen tables. But from where I stand, I see not America's sunset, but a sunrise.

The world changes for which we've sacrificed for a generation, have finally come to pass, and with them a rare and unprecedented opportunity, to pass the sweet cup of prosperity around our American table.

Are we up to it? I know we are. As I travel our land, I meet veterans who once worked the turrets of a tank, and can now master the keyboards of high-tech economy. I see teachers, blessed with the incredible American capacity for innovation, who are teaching our children a new way to learn, for a new century. I meet parents, some working two jobs with hectic schedules, who still find new ways to teach old values to steady their kids in a turbulent world.

And I take heart from what is happening in America, not from those who profess a new passion for government, but from those with an old and enduring faith in the human potential. Those who understand that the genius of America is our capacity for rebirth and renewal. America is the land where the sun is always peeking over the horizon.

Tonight I appeal to that unyielding, undying, undeniable American spirit. I ask you to consider, now that the entire world is moving our way, why would we want to go back their way? I ask not just for your support for my agenda, but for your commitment to renew and rebuild our nation -- by shaking up the one institution that has withstood change for over four decades. (Applause.) Join me in rolling away the roadblock at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, so that in the next four years, we will match our accomplishments outside, by building a stronger, safer, more secure America inside.

Forty-four years ago -- in another age of uncertainty -- a different president embarked on a similar mission. His name was Harry S. Truman. And as he stood before his party to accept their nomination, Harry Truman knew the freedom I know this evening, the freedom to talk about what's right for America, and let the chips fall where they may.

Harry Truman said this: "This is more than a political call to arms. Give me your help, not to win votes alone, but to win this new crusade and keep America safe and secure for its own people.

Well, tonight I say to you -- join me in our new crusade -- to reap the rewards of our global victory -- to win the peace -- so that we may make America safer and stronger -- for all our people.

May God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much. Thank you so much. Thank you all. (Applause.)

END

10:20 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

August 7, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT CEREMONY HONORING THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LANDING ON GUADALCANAL

Marine Corps Memorial
Arlington, Virginia

11:11 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Senator Chafee, and the other members of Congress that are with us who are veterans of Guadalcanal. May I salute the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Colin Powell; Commandant of the Marines Carl Mundy. General Sullivan, Commandant of the Army is with us. The Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean O'Keefe; distinguished Commandant of the Coast Guard William Kime; and of course, the Medal of Honor recipient, Mitchell Paige. But most important, you Marines.

I would like to open -- (applause.) I thought they had a little life left in them.

I'd like to open if I may with a story. It's a story of heroism, a story of courage, sacrifice. It's a story from Guadalcanal. Kenneth Bailey was commanding officer of Company C, 1st Marine Raider Battalion, when his men were called upon to defend Henderson Field during the Japanese assault September 12 and 13th of 1942. The enemy had penetrated our main line of defense, their number superior to ours. And only a miracle it seemed could defend that airfield.

And Major Bailey and his men provided the miracle, turning back the flank attack, then covering the withdrawal of our main force. And in the fighting, Major Bailey sustained severe wounds to his head. And even so, for 10 hours he and his men engaged the enemy in vicious hand-to-hand combat.

The attack was repulsed and Henderson Field was secured. And Major Bailey died two weeks later from machine-gun fire in yet another battle on Guadalcanal. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallantry on Bloody Ridge.

Major Bailey's story serves as a summation for thousands of other stories; tales that could be told by the brave men gathered here who survived the hell that was Guadalcanal.

Secretary Cheney mentioned the lesson of those battles, and I'm struck, recounting Major Bailey's story, of one lesson in particular. Kenneth Bailey was from Pawnee, Oklahoma, a town of 2,000 near the Arkansas River in the north central part of the state. And in the months and years before the great war in the Pacific, who could have predicted that a son from Pawnee, Oklahoma; or the sons of Raritan, New Jersey; or Sioux Falls, South Dakota; or Rutland, Vermont -- who could have foretold that these young men from every corner of America would be called upon to defend freedom 6,000 miles away on an obscure Pacific island called Guadalcanal?

It's safe to say that few, if any, had ever heard of the island. None could have predicted what would transpire there. But

MORE

it was on Guadalcanal that the forces of freedom began their long march -- a march that wouldn't end until three years later in Tokyo Bay on the deck of the USS Missouri. (Applause.)

No one can foretell when or where freedom will be challenged. That is one of the lessons of Guadalcanal. How many Americans in 1947 had heard of Inchon or Pusan or Chosin? How many of us 15 years later had heard of De Nang or Khe Sahn? And how few Americans in the summer of '90 had yet heard of Khafji or Safwan. And yet today, these names are indelibly part of the roll call of honor, places where Americans made their stand and offered up their sweat and blood to a cause greater than themselves.

And we honor the dead, not merely for their sake, but for our own sake as well. And in commemoration and remembrance, we learn again that freedom, in the deepest sense, always hangs in the balance. That we earn it day by day in hot wars and cold; that its price, as Jefferson said, is eternal vigilance, an endlessly renewed dedication to keeping our great country strong, our defenses second to none, our leadership unquestioned and unchallenged.

There was a rhyme passed around during those dark six months that I'm sure many Marines here today out front remember. Six months, as the battle raged on, when freedom hung by the unbreakable thread of American bravery and resolve. Every Marine who wasn't fighting on the island knew the lines, "Say a prayer for your pal on Guadalcanal."

This morning in this place -- and thank you, Pastor, for your loving invocation -- this morning and in this place, we remember those words and the men who inspired them. And with hearts full of pride and awe and thanksgiving, we once again say a prayer for those who fought and died in a place few had known of, but which all of us will never forget.

May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless our great country, the United States of America. (Applause.) Thank you. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

11:18 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Neenah, Wisconsin)

For Immediate Release July 27, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
UPON ARRIVAL

Outagamie County Airport
Appleton, Wisconsin

1:19 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all for this marvelous turnout. I do have an official announcement I want to make today. And I first want to salute Governor Thompson, Senator Kasten, and our distinguished members of the United States House of Representatives. Great to be back in this state that's built on faith and family and freedom. And Wisconsin is a great example to the rest of America -- just as America is to the entire world. (Applause.)

And today I'm very proud to be in a place where programs like Learnfare and Workfare and the Parental Responsibility Act -- all tell America: "Watch Wisconsin because Wisconsin works." (Applause.)

And Governor Thompson wants Wisconsin to work even better. And that's why he's joined my crusade to reform our welfare system. And let's face it, we know the system has failed the people. And it doesn't lift families from poverty -- it traps them there. And welfare discourages families from staying together. And when the system rips families apart, it's time to rip apart that system. (Applause.)

Now, Americans yearn to keep families whole and give our kids the learning skills and, yes, track down parents who run out on their kids. And they know that if America doesn't change the welfare system for the better, the welfare system is going to change America for the worse. And that means trying, therefore, new plans, new ideas, a new kind of reform. Only then can we break the cycle of dependency.

In my State of the Union address last January, I made a commitment to far-reaching reform. And I acted because I believe we can no longer afford the existing welfare system. And our recipients can't afford to be dependent on government for their livelihood. And our taxpayers can't afford to pay the welfare bill. And our economy can't afford the lost productivity.

And I also acted because I trust the American people and because I believe that what those on welfare -- what they really want is a piece of the American Dream -- homeownership, a good job, opportunities for their children and strong, loving families. And, therefore, I am determined to make it quicker and easier for states who choose to reform their welfare systems to get the federal waivers that they need to help the people help themselves.

Last April, my administration signed a first waiver for Wisconsin. And today, it will sign a second, giving Governor Thompson the freedom to further reform this state's welfare program. (Applause.) Governor Thompson's ultimate goal is to break the cycle of dependency that traps so many people, and create incentives for recipients to work and learn. And he understands that more important

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than having an America that helps people in need is building an America where fewer people need to be helped.

And today, I want to challenge other states in our country to follow Wisconsin's lead in bringing new ideas to our welfare system. Last week, we approved New Jersey's Family Development Program -- whose reforms in the state welfare program reward work and unite families. And I am confident other states will now do what America does best, bring local genius to local needs.

In coming months, we are going to "Watch Wisconsin" to see how "Wisconsin Works." And together, we can help change that welfare system -- and in doing so, change America. I'm proud to sign this waiver. I congratulate Governor Thompson and the people of Wisconsin.

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

END

1:28 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Jackson Hole, Wyoming)

For Immediate Release

July 17, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE JACKSON COMMUNITY

Jackson Hole Airport
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

12:05 P.M. MDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Let me just say at the beginning of these remarks how grateful I am for the congressional delegation that I work with in Washington. If we had more men like the Congressman that just introduced me, Craig Thomas, if we had more like him in the House I guarantee you this country would be moving forward faster with opportunity for all. (Applause.)

And I salute Malcolm Wallop, who I don't think is with us today but -- also my dear friend, Al Simpson, who stands tall, all right; we saw that. But he's out there for principle in the United States Senate. And he's a close personal friend, he and Ann, to Barbara and me. And we -- that disproves the theory that goes like this: Well, if you want a dog in Washington -- I mean, want a friend in Washington, get a dog. (Laughter.) My view is we've got the Simpsons and several others like him.

May I thank the Bar-J Wranglers down there, who did a great job. (Applause.) And the Jackson Hole Community Band. (Applause.) And others who make this very, very special. I told the Mayor, Bill Westbrook, because I was sitting next to him here at barbecue, that for me this is a very special change of pace. I don't want to argue with my friend, Al Simpson, but we're not quite into the one-on-one competitive mode yet. I'm going to hold back a little bit until after the Republican Convention. And then we're going after it. And we're going to win this election because I'm going to take the case to the American people for sure. (Applause.)

I want to salute Senator Cliff Hanson, who is with us; his wife, Martha. Another Nebraska Senator is here, Senator Curtis, another good friend. And I'd be remiss if I didn't single out Estelle Stacie Karrier, with whom I worked when I was Chairman of the Republican National Committee -- sitting over here. (Applause.)

And someone told me that another man I was proud to have served with, Jim Watt, is here, a member of this community, and I salute him and wish him the best of everything. (Applause.)

And let me tell you this: With all the hue and cry of politics, I cannot think of a better way to spend a Friday noon, Friday afternoon -- the big sky and the hot sun, this fantastic view, this marvelous helping of baked beans and coleslaw -- not a single piece of broccoli anywhere on that whole table. (Laughter and applause.)

In the line over there somebody asked me if I wanted to comment on this week's big event -- the one that captured the imagination of millions of TV viewers. And to be brutally honest, I thought the All-Star game would be a lot closer than it was. (Laughter.)

Let me just make a few comments because, seriously, it was an important week in American politics. And I salute the opposition. They ran a good show there, and I don't think there's any reason to be bitter or small about all of that. But I want to say a word about yesterday's happening and about Ross Perot and that surprising announcement yesterday.

I admit that as the incumbent President of the United States that it's tempting to quietly applaud the fact that this strange year, this strange political year, has suddenly become "normal." But I can't do that. The grassroots fervor of the Perot supporters transcends what we call politics as usual.

And you see, a vote was taken this spring and summer in America. No ballots were cast, but a vote was taken. No polls opened, but a referendum took place nonetheless. Nobody won this election, but politics lost. And politics lost because it's become increasingly irrelevant to many Americans. Its language is not understood around our kitchen tables. Politics for too many people has become synonymous with slogans, posturing, and it's come to mean the opposite of progress.

And today I have a message for anyone who supported Ross Perot, and any American who identifies with that frustration that brought them together: I hear you. And you've come through loud and clear. And Ross used to like to say two words more than any others -- you, meaning the people -- you and win. And today I can say to his supporters, while politics as usual may have lost, you have won.

And I hear the voices in so many accents say attention must be paid to our jobs, our schools, our families. Attention must be paid to our future. And I hear that call. And more than that, I share that frustration.

In my first term in office I have learned that it is far easier to convince the leaders of diverse nations to mobilize to confront a tyrant than to convince the Congress to approve a relatively small tax incentive so that Americans, young Americans, can buy that first home. And we are going to keep fighting for those young Americans. (Applause.)

And I say this not to bash the United States Congress, but to tell you that the view from the White House looks the same as the view from your front porch. And the system needs repair. And my message to the disillusioned and the disaffected is simple: Don't walk away from the system. Don't assume that without a protest vote there is no vote at all. The solution to our challenges today is the same that America has turned to so many times before -- that mixture of values, experience, and ideas that we call leadership.

And what kind of leadership do we need? I believe that our first priority is to provide more economic opportunity for more people. (Applause.) You see, too many people have worked for a company for 20 years only to worry that the next mail is going to bring in a pink slip. Too many parents have saved to send their kids to college only to find that the graduates -- once graduated, a kid can't get a good job.

And the first order of business is to get the federal deficit down by cutting federal spending. And I need more help in that end. (Applause.)

And, yes, I believe that we should create incentives for the people in the businesses who create jobs and give them access to the new markets that are opening all around the world. And I also believe that we have to restore the traditional American values that have held our society together for 200 years. (Applause.)

And you know what they are. We're talking about respect. We're talking about knowing the difference between right and wrong. We're talking about helping our neighbors; putting the family, the American family, first; and putting our faith in something larger than ourselves. And I happen to know a silver-haired philosopher who is not with us today, named Barbara Bush. (Applause.) And she says this: that what happens in your house is more important than what happens in the White House. And it is far more important than what happens in the White House -- and that is true.

I believe government can be a force to strengthen our families. And government can reward work -- not welfare dependency. Welfare can encourage families not to fall apart, but to stick together. And government can give families in Wyoming and in every other state the option of deciding where our children should go to school -- a church school, a private school, or a public school -- wherever their parents choose. And that is the American way. (Applause.)

And I also believe that we must restore respect for the law. It is not enough to have peace in the world if people don't feel safe in their own backyards. (Applause.) What do you say to an elderly woman who watches the Berlin Wall fall on television but is afraid to walk to her grocery store? And what do you say to a 10-year-old kid who hears of the Russians reducing nuclear weapons and then has to walk through metal detector at school every morning? You say enough is enough. And let's put an end to the lawlessness. And let's put an end to the drug use that results in so much of this illegal behavior. (Applause.)

And so this is the kind of action I propose today, right now, to shake up the system, and let American realize the opportunity before us. I am not pessimistic about the United States of America. We are the best and the finest, and we have lots to be proud of. And help me move this country forward. (Applause.)

I know it's not going to be easy. For three years now I've proposed dramatic changes in each of these areas that I mentioned today and run into roadblocks that Senator Simpson talked about. But as I said, politics as usual can be no more. You want action and you want change. And to anyone who wants to block that change, I say what you say: Get out of our way and let America move forward once again. (Applause.)

For all our challenges, America's potential really has never been greater. And if we can get our economy moving faster and restore our families and take back our streets, our potential is as tall as the mountains that surround us. And can we do it? You bet. I believe we can. I'm confident we can. And if we can topple the Berlin Wall, and if we can build a sturdy economy, and if we can lift the Iron Curtain, and if we can bring down the curtain on new-age values, if we can help people walk the streets free in Eastern Europe, we can take back the streets of America. And we must get that job done. (Applause.)

And if we can revive a world's faith in freedom, we can repair the American system. And this is our mission. It's to renew America, to complete the dream.

I have a feeling that I'm lecturing to the choir when it comes to family, comes to values, comes to faith. I'm lecturing to the choir with this group assembled. And I thank those with civic clubs that have drawn this magnificent crowd together. But I am going to take this message of hope and opportunity all across the country. For years from now, when I come back for a little more trout fishing -- (laughter) -- I look forward to standing before you to say: Mission accomplished. We are America. We can get the job done. I need your help.

And may I just simply say thank you for this fantastic Wyoming hospitality. And may God bless the United States of America, the greatest, freest, fairest country on the face of the Earth. (Applause.)

Thank you all and good luck. Thank you very much. Thank you so much for a great welcome. What a wonderful way to come out of the mountains and see the real people that make this country great. Thank you so much. (Applause.)

END

12:20 P.M. MDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 6, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRIME MINISTER MAJOR OF GREAT BRITAIN
UPON ARRIVAL

Camp David, Maryland

4:05 P.M. EDT

PRESIDENT BUSH: Prime Minister and Mrs. Major, let me just give you a hearty welcome back to Camp David.

Forty-eight years ago today, Ike and Monty, Churchill and FDR, Allied soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen, heroes all, forged the greatest armada in the history of man -- the D-Day Invasion.

Our goal was a legacy of peace. And to achieve it, we first had to win a war. June 6th, 1944, told the world that aggression will not stand. And so it's fitting that the Prime Minister and I meet on this historic anniversary of a new beginning in Europe to talk about our countries' enduring special relationship and the future challenges that we face in this promising new world.

Already we've responded to each other, not with just the formal handshake of two allies, but with the embrace of two friends. And we meet as leaders of nations joined by a common culture and civilization. Recalling how Dwight Eisenhower, beloved in Britain in America, once said of freedom: "To preserve it, the Londoner will fight, and so will the citizen of Abilene."

Over more than four decades of the Cold War, we reaffirmed our relationship. And then came the Persian Gulf where, again, we stood fast so that liberty could prevail. Years from now, people will still marvel at British and American heroism in Operation Desert Storm. People will also note how the last year reaffirmed the strength of our alliance, the value of the rule of law, and that England will always be our friend.

Our nation sprang from England's belief in the sanctity of the individual. Today, that belief has never been stronger, our alliance never firmer, our desire never deeper to build a free and peaceful world.

So, Mr. Prime Minister, let me thank you, sir, for your determination and Britain's example to the world. Welcome back to the USA, and I look forward to discussing a wide array of subjects with you in the couple of days ahead.

Thank you very much for coming our way again.

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Well, Mr. President, thank you very much for inviting Norma and I back here to join you at Camp David. I seem to recall the first time I came was just on the eve of the Gulf War, and when you kindly invited us to Kennebunkport it was just after the Russian Revolution. So we have slightly more clement times for our discussions over this weekend. But it is, as the President indicated, a very remarkable anniversary today.

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Well, I think it is worth recalling what actually happened then. It was the United States' presence in Europe that enabled that war to be won. It's been the United States' presence in Europe since that war that has kept Europe free since the period when the war first ended.

And in the last couple of years or so we've seen new freedoms for half Europe. New freedoms from a different tyranny; but, nonetheless, very welcome freedoms. I think we see our role in the free West as helping to keep it free, to help that second half of Europe adjust to democracy and to make the changes to a free market that are undoubtedly necessary for its future.

Over years, we have seen that the United States and the United Kingdom generally come through against the odds. And I have no doubt that we will do so with whatever challenges lie immediately ahead.

The United States these days is the one superpower in the world, acknowledged beyond doubt as the most powerful individual nation anywhere on this Earth. Over the years, it's been their leadership that's been vital to keep the free West free, and it's now their leadership that will help to keep free and make free that part of the West that until recently has been under all sorts of appalling domination.

So we have many things to discuss over this weekend: the future in Eastern Europe, what is going to happen in the former Soviet states, problems in other parts of the world. I have no doubt we'll touch upon the important trade matters that need to be dealt with, and a whole raft of other issues of bilateral and multilateral importance.

I simply want to say, Mr. President, that Norma and I are delighted to be back here. We feel we're amongst friends, we feel we're amongst allies, and I look forward to our discussions this weekend.

PRESIDENT BUSH: Welcome back.

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Thank you very much. Thank you.

Q Gentlemen, should NATO do more to stop the fighting in Bosnia?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT BUSH: I think we're going to answer some questions tomorrow, I think.

Q Prime Minister, are you going to convince President Bush to sign the biodiversity treaty in Rio?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Lunchtime tomorrow will be here.

END

4:09 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PROCLAMATION SIGNING CEREMONY
DESIGNATING WEEK FOR THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

The Roosevelt Room

11:03 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: May I salute Secretary Card and General Powell; the Deputy Secretary of Veteran Affairs, Mr. Principi; the Deputy Secretary of Defense with us, Don Atwood; Secretary Larry Garrett; Secretary Rice; and Michael Stone of the Army; General Mundy, who's right over here; and then the members of Congress who are with us today. I believe Senator Cranston was going to be here -- here he is right over here -- see you, Alan. And, of course, Congressman Montgomery, Stump, Meyers -- and who am I missing -- Senator, sorry.

We have a distinguished group here to salute the occasion. And also Don Wilson is with us, the Archivist, and Albert McCluskey a veteran of the battle of Midway, other veterans here today, and members of civic and veterans service organizations, and also some other members of the Joint Chiefs I see.

May I salute General Kicklighter, the Executive Director, and members of the Department of Defense's World War II Commemoration Committee. And welcome all to the White House.

And to this special observance of the 50th anniversary of an event which linked Americans hearts and minds, the monumental struggle known as the Second World War. Overnight, World War II literally transformed America from a people at peace to a nation at war that would define the course of history for the rest of this century.

And the attack on Pearl Harbor forced America to abandon isolationism and take up the mantle of leadership. World War II was fought for American soil and sovereignty. And it was also fought to defend people who, hating war, sought only peace -- people everywhere who yearn for freedom then and now.

The year 1942 was crucial to our history. Americans came together, each citizen sought ways to do his or her part. And factories, designed to build the tools of peace, produced the tools of war -- ships, planes, tanks, ammunition -- all crucial to the allied effort. And it wasn't easy, but we did it. And we did it fast. And we did the hard work of freedom.

I was 17 on December 7, 1941, and like so many here, not so many in this room, but like some -- (laughter) -- enlisted on my 18th birthday as a Seaman Second Class. And I do remember vividly the news from the early days, how it was grim. Guam was overrun and the reports from the Pacific were rather scary; Bataan and Corregidor fell. And yet the battle of the Coral Sea foiled Japanese plans to invade Port Moresby and New Guinea.

And 50 years ago this week our forces began what may have been the greatest naval battle of all time. Midway turned the

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tide of World War II and the inevitable allied victory. You could feel it. It began to take shape.

Winston Churchill once said of World War II, "There never was a war in all history easier to prevent." And today let us recall what the lion cried as a voice in the wilderness: "No one ever walks away from appeasing an aggressor. He only crawls."

Weakening our defenses during a time of peace is an open invitation to those with the potential to wage war. And as President, as long as I'm President, the military's commitment to defending freedom will be matched by our commitment to defending the military.

Some say our victory in the Cold War allows us to pull back to our own waters edge. And I say, just as America's vigilance helped us win that war, so a strong America can now help win the peace.

We seek a world where differences are solved peacefully, where the force of law really outlasts the use of force. And sacrifices made heroically 50 years ago have helped bring about a new and better world. And it's a world I thought of last December where on the 50th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Barbara and I looked at the sunken hull of the Arizona out there, the U.S.S. Arizona, tomb to more than a thousand of great heroes, the greatest that any nation has ever known.

And there I thought of the wife whose best friend was her husband; and the little boy whose brother his idol once vowed to take him fishing after the fighting stopped. And I thought of the father whose son or daughter would now know him as a martyr but never as a dad. And I resolved once again we must never ever let America's defenses down.

The men who died there in World War II would today, I am convinced -- and I think I said it out there -- be very, very proud of America; proud of what we have become as a nation because of their service and sacrifice; proud of how their fate and faith still stir and shape us. So we honor them and we remember them so that future generations will say of us what we do also: God bless this wondrous land, the United States of America.

World War II is a fight that the we did not seek, against enemies that we didn't chose, for a cause that is first among all -- the right of people everywhere to be free.

And in that spirit then, it is my honor to once again welcome all of you to the White House and to sign the proclamation designating the National Observance of the 50th Anniversary of World War II. And thank you all for coming. (Applause.)

(Proclamation is signed.)

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the deed is done. Thank you all very much for being with us. (Applause.)

END

11:08 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 1, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER EMPLOYEES

Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland

2:44 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. Thank you for this welcome to Goddard. And, Dan Goldin, thank you, sir for the introduction, the leadership you're giving the agency.

With me is Bill Reilly. We've been talking today about the upcoming summit in Brazil, the environmental meeting down there. And this visit is very timely for both of us, I think, seeing what magnificent contribution Goddard makes to a better understanding of our planet. I want to salute Mike Deland, who was with us up at Camp David a little bit ago. He runs our Council on Environmental Quality. He's at my side in the White House -- a sound environmentalist. Dr. Klineberg -- I listened, I had the applause meter on when you walked in -- (laughter) -- and either they're scared of you or you doing something right. (Laughter.) I don't know which it is, but it was most impressive. And thanks for your hospitality. May I salute Brian Daley, out here, of the Space Council. And I'd like to thank Dr. Fisk who helped us in the tour.

Now, you know that it's been a month, and in just over a month on the job, Dan Goldin supervised the recovery of a satellite on Endeavor's maiden voyage; he won a vote, a very important vote, to save the space station on the floor of the House; and he launched his own cultural revolution at NASA. And I'd say the new NASA is off to a flying start. And I am very grateful to him for taking on this terribly important assignment heading up NASA.

Twenty years ago this month -- 20 years ago, the leaders of the world gathered in Sweden to talk about the human environment. The Stockholm Declaration that they adopted had a simple conclusion, that "through fuller knowledge and wiser action, we can achieve for ourselves and our posterity a better life in an environment more in keeping with human needs and hopes." Much has been accomplished since those early days of environmentalism, and much has been learned.

And we've learned that only market-oriented economies and democratic systems provide the accountability needed to protect against environmental degradation. The coating of soot that the world found when the curtain of secrecy was pulled back from Eastern Europe was but one visible demonstration of that.

We've learned that the economy can grow even while pollution is reduced. Since 1973, our GDP has grown by more than 50 percent. And yet air quality has gotten better: Emissions of carbon monoxide and smog-forming ozone, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter are all down by more than 20 percent. And water quality has gotten better: We've achieved an 80 percent reduction in suspended solids from industrial and sewage treatment plants.

We've learned that technology -- spurred by the right incentives -- can provide help to the environment that no amount of

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regulation of old technology could have achieved. Technological progress can cut pollution rather than increase it. And at the same time, the efficiency gained is good for profits.

And we've learned that market-based mechanisms and flexibility -- aimed at ambitious objectives and backed up by rigorous enforcement -- can help us solve environmental problems at less cost than command and control regulation.

We've learned about a new generation of environmental problems that are global in scope, and that will require international cooperation to solve.

This week -- and I referred to this earlier -- over 100 heads of state will gather in Rio de Janeiro, and it will be time to apply those lessons. And what better place to discuss our plans for taking on the problems of the international environment than here at Goddard.

I thought as I was on this little tour -- which was all too quick, but nevertheless gave me a little feel about the magnificent work that the wonderful employees of Goddard do -- I thought wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if these 100 or more heads of state could actually walk through the laboratories here and get a practical feeling for what it is you are doing; to see how they can better monitor the changes that they talk about or that they get from their environmental ministers. It's a wonderful thing. And I think it's very timely that I've had this opportunity, and I look forward to sharing with those people down in Rio.

It is science developed here that has given the world a new window from which to see its environment. A spacecraft managed by Goddard provided humanity with its first image of Earth from space. It was your scientists -- Goddard's scientists who developed the Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite launched last year, which is providing us new insight about the content of the ozone layer.

And the lion's share of the science that the world is using to understand our climate comes from a program with its heart and soul right here -- the Global Change Research Program, built around the Mission to Planet Earth that Goddard is developing.

When we go to Rio, the U.S. will go proudly as the world's leader, not just in environmental research, but in environmental action. The United States was the first nation to recognize the danger of CFC emissions by eliminating aerosol propellants, which we did in 1978. Other nations are now following suit -- using the aerosol phaseout as credit to meet the terms of the Montreal Protocol. We are 42 percent ahead of the schedule required by that agreement. And earlier this year, on the basis of science developed by NASA, we unilaterally decided to speed up our timetable for phasing out CFCs to the end of 1995.

We were the first nation, back in 1975, to adopt catalytic converters to reduce those emissions from our cars and trucks. In 1982, we began phasing out lead from American gasoline -- and now ambient levels of lead in our air have been cut by 95 percent. Other nations are only now taking these two steps.

I came to this office committed to extend America's record of environmental leadership. And I've worked to do so in a way that is compatible with economic growth, because this balance is absolutely essential -- and because these are twin goals, not mutually exclusive objectives.

You see, those who met 20 years ago at Stockholm and called for this UNCED, this summit, explicitly called for the

discussion at Rio to be about both environment and development. And they knew even back then that the two were inextricably linked.

Only a growing economy can generate the resources and the will to manage natural assets for the longer term and the common good. But only assets which are so managed can support the growth on which so much human hope is hinged. By definition, for development to be successful in the long term, it has got to be sustainable.

And so I invite comparison of the record that we as a country and as an administration have built. It is aggressive. It is comprehensive. And it is ambitious, but carefully balanced. What we've done in this administration reflects the new environmentalism, more sophisticated in its approach, that harnesses the power of the marketplace in the service of the environment. Let me give you some examples.

The 1990 Clean Air Act, which I proposed and signed into law, is the most ambitious air pollution legislation anywhere on Earth. It will cut acid rain, smog, toxic chemical emissions. And yet it will do so with innovations the whole world is watching. We have a trading system for sulfur dioxide reductions, have a new generation of cleaner fuels and cleaner cars, a massive -- and to date successful -- voluntary air toxics reduction program.

Our national parks are under stress from millions of visitors. And so, just in the last four years, we've added over a million and half acres to America's parks, forests, wildlife refuges and to other public land. We've created 57 new wildlife refuges and restored or protected more than a-half-a-million acres a year of important wetlands. And at the same time, we've streamlined the permitting process so that projects which don't hurt wetlands aren't slowed down. And we've made sure to respect people's private property rights.

We've placed a moratorium on oil and gas drilling along the most environmentally-sensitive areas of our coasts, signed new laws to protect against oil spills, to end below-cost timber sales in America's largest rain forest, the Tongass, and to promote environmental education. We've backed our laws up with strict enforcement to make the polluters pay. And the results have been record contributions to cleanups from businesses.

And we have attended to the international environment -- with new agreements to stop the irresponsible export of toxic wastes, to ban trade in ivory and thereby stop the extinction of elephants due to poaching, and to use debt forgiveness to protect the environment through debt for nature swaps.

In short, our country, America, retains its place at the forefront of international environmental accomplishment. Our laws have served as a model for environmental laws the world over.

America's environmental accomplishments have not come by mistake -- they are the result of sustained investment. Today, the U.S. spends about two percent of its Gross Domestic Product -- over \$100 billion per year -- on pollution control. In comparison to other nations, that's among the highest in the world.

Americans have always believed that actions speak louder than words. And simple wisdom has guided our approach to the questions on the table at Rio. We will sign a good agreement on climate change. It is based on the idea that every nation should prepare an action strategy -- as we in the United States have done.

We first laid our plan on the table in February 1991 -- with specific policy proposals and specific calculations concerning how much greenhouse gas emissions would be reduced. When the science on CFCs changed, we added new measures and we again laid our plan on

the table. We showed that our policies would reduce projected year 2000 greenhouse gas emissions by 125 million to 200 million tons -- or by seven to 11 percent.

No other nation except the Netherlands has laid out such a specific plan of action. And that's why we insisted that the focus be on results, not on rhetoric.

It may not have been widely reported in the press, but in area after area, the United States laid down specific proposals and worked for their adoption: Forests. Oceans. Living Marine Resources. Public participation. Financing.

Let me be clear: Our commitment to action did not begin and will not end with Rio.

So when I travel down there next week, to Brazil, I will bring with me several proposals to extend the commitment of the world community into the future. Let me outline for you my four-point plan of cooperation:

First, I will propose a major new initiative to protect and enhance the world's forests. I mentioned lessons learned about cost effectiveness. Well, halting the loss of the Earth's forests is one of the most cost-effective steps we can take to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

Forests also filter the air and water. They provide products from timber and fuelwood to pharmaceuticals and foodstuffs. They are home to more than half the world's species. At the Houston G-7 Summit two years ago, I proposed a global forest convention. At UNCED, we should get agreement on the principles leading up to it.

But I propose today to move ahead faster. At Rio, I will ask the other industrialized countries to join me in doubling worldwide forest assistance -- with a goal of halting the loss of the world's forests by the end of the decade. As a down payment, the U.S. will increase its bilateral forest assistance by \$150 million next year.

The plan is to encourage partnerships -- between recipient countries who could propose new projects and investor countries who, in effect, could bid to support the most effective proposals for sequestering CO2 or preserving biodiversity.

Second, with respect to climate. The signing of a convention that calls for action plans is simply a first step -- we must implement them. So I will join in proposing a prompt start to adoption of climate action plans. Of course, as new and better science becomes available on climate change, we will adjust our action plan accordingly.

The solution to climate change must include the developing countries. While today they account for about a quarter of the world's emissions, by the year 2025 they will contribute over half. So we must have their participation -- and we will fund "country studies" to get them started.

These countries will need new technologies if they are to enjoy "green growth". And America can provide them. So my budget includes an investment of almost a \$1 billion in developing new energy-efficient technologies.

Hundreds of American businessmen will be traveling to Rio to make the case for our technology. But this effort must

continue. So then the third part of our plan is to support a program, a broad program of technology cooperation. In particular, we're going to create a Technology Cooperation Corps to identify the green technology -- those green technological needs of countries around the world -- and then to knock down the barriers to making it available.

The fourth point of my program for a cleaner future is a continued program of research and understanding. This year, we are requesting over \$1.4 billion for the Global Change Research Program -- that's more than the amount spent on climate research by the rest of the world put together.

With Dan Goldin's leadership here at NASA, we will push for a program that provides results faster, cheaper, and better. At Rio, I will propose to make the data from our climate change program available and affordable for scientists and researchers all around the world.

As part of this effort, we will distribute at that conference, at UNCED, thousands of copies of computer disks with data on greenhouse effects and we will open this year a Global Change Research Information Office.

These four steps -- a dramatic program to protect and to enhance forests; quick action on climate change; cooperation in deploying cleaner, more efficient technology; and then an ongoing program to develop and share sound science -- can help us seize that opportunity long after those speeches in Rio have been given and the conference is over.

Two decades ago, when they gathered at Stockholm, the leaders of the world could not possibly have foreseen the tumultuous events of the intervening two decades. Then they worried about nuclear war as a chief environmental threat. They couldn't have known that today the specter of nuclear war -- with its unthinkable destruction -- would be calmed as never before in our postwar history.

They could not possibly have envisioned that, with the fall of statism and communism, those who would come to Rio would have the chance to launch a new generation of clean growth -- guided by the wisdom of free peoples and fueled by the power of free markets.

They could never have known how far we'd have come in 20 years. Now it is for us to imagine how much further we can go. And what better place to make the point -- that point -- than standing before these people that are dedicated to demonstrating to the rest of the world how much farther we can go.

I am grateful to each and every one of you who gives of himself or herself to further the science and, thus, to improve and keep something very, very special -- the environmental quality of our entire world. Thank you for what you do. And may God bless our great country. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

3:05 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Phoenix, Arizona)

For Immediate Release

May 28, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN

Phoenix Civic Plaza
Phoenix, Arizona

6:23 P.M. MST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very, very much for that welcome. May I pay my tribute to Jim Click. He's been a staunch supporter of the Republican cause for a long, long time, and I'm very grateful to see him again and grateful for that introduction.

And, of course, I'm proud to be at the side of John McCain, and his wife Cindy. I want to salute two from our Cabinet: Secretary Lynn Martin, our Secretary of Labor over here, who's doing a superb job -- job training and a wide array of other issues -- (applause) -- and then our irrepressible Secretary of HUD, who is going with me as we head back out to Los Angeles, but a man who is doing a superb job in this concept of homeownership, giving people a part of the action -- Jack Kemp, our Secretary of HUD. (Applause.)

And may I salute Governor Fife Symington and Ann; and of course, a special war abraso for Barry and Susan Goldwater; and our chairman, Jerry Davis; Pastor Jackson, whom I've been privileged to be with before; Everett Alvarez, who today was announced as one of our cochairmen of our veterans effort -- a great America.

Brenda High, appropriately named for the way she did that Star-Spangled Banner. It was outstanding. And you can't help but be stirred when you hear a rendition like that of our great National Anthem. And thanks to the -- where is the band? I can't see them, but I understand you've got a great Chaparral High School band over here. Thank you for your music. (Applause.)

And thanks to Shannon Marketic, Miss U.S.A., for the Pledge. And out with us in the audience, a guy I visited with earlier on, a true Point of Light, Kevin Johnson of the Phoenix Suns, and all he does for the young people out here. (Applause.) And then another old friend who I had a chance to greet earlier on, Joe Bugel of the Cardinals -- a great guy and a great sportsman. And I'm proud to see him.

So it's a pleasure to be back, and I'm sorry Barbara's not here. And I will apologize -- she told me that broccoli is on the menu, and I'm out of here as soon as I finish speaking. (Laughter.) But seriously, we do have to head back out to Los Angeles, be sure we're following up the way we should there.

But I'm glad to have this opportunity to express my appreciation to our Senator -- and I say "our" because Barbara and I feel like he's just part of us -- Senator John McCain for his help in fighting against that pork barrel spending back in Washington, and for his leadership and support for the line-item veto. He is a man of principle. (Applause.)

And, John, your leadership has been absolutely invaluable. And when I see it I say to myself, if only we had

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control of the United States Senate -- on budget, on taxes, on health care, on the needs of older Americans. John McCain's efforts mean so much to me and so much to our country, and they, of course, mean an awful lot to the great state of Arizona and to all Americans. You are lucky, indeed, to have him in the Senate, and we must have him back come fall. (Applause.)

And, of course, special tribute to Senator Barry Goldwater for his half-century of principled -- and I use that word advisedly -- principled service to our great country. What a record of achievement. What an example. What an accomplishment. Fifty years in public service, and underlying it all, character and integrity totally intact. I am proud to be his friend. I am grateful for his support.

There have been some tough times in my political life, and one of them was four years ago. And Barry came up there, suited up, got on a long flight and flew up to New Hampshire and bailed me out. And I'll never, ever forget it. Not out of jail, but out of some political hot water up there. (Laughter.)

And how about this backdrop? I like it very much, not only as a great art work, but coming from a city where Congress spends so much money, it's always good to see something in black ink. (Laughter.)

It was Barry Goldwater who put it this way: "Those who do not have courage want complicated answers." Well, Republicans are courageous people and our solutions to America's problems are simple and effective, not complicated out of a maze of red tape.

While the Democrats put their faith in adding new bricks to the old bureaucratic programs -- and they try to do it every single day up there in the Congress -- we Republicans are focusing on leaving our children and grandchildren three fundamental legacies that are integral to their own future: Strong families to sustain individuals, to nurture and encourage children, and to preserve our nation's character and our culture. And then, number two, peace, in our schools, on our streets, and, yes, all around the world. And then, third one, jobs, both for those who are seeking work and for graduates entering the work force.

And I might add, at long last our national economy is beginning to move. It's recovering, and consumer confidence -- you might have seen it yesterday -- is starting back up, is returning. These legacies, all of them don't always translate into sound bites, but they are definitely sound policy. Senator Goldwater and Senator John McCain have both been at the forefront in helping to establish these legacies and in building a sound Republican policy; policy that sees problems as something more than excuses for new centralized, mandated programs. And this is the message I will be taking to the American people in the fall, and this is the message that is going to win for us not only the White House, but control of the Congress. You watch and see now. (Applause.)

What we are trying to do is to offer innovation and change. And American industries lead the world in growth and efficiency. And America is the world's leading exporter, producing \$422 billion worth last year alone -- \$422 billion. And over the past five years, our exports have supported seven million jobs. These are impressive accomplishments, a record of economic growth and international competitiveness to make any country proud.

Instead of excuses, we're offering education. More than one of four American workers has a college degree; another 20 percent have at least a year of college. And through this program we've got, the break-the-mold school program, and parental choice and choice for public, private or religious schools for their children, I might add

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-- (applause) -- our America 2000 initiative for education -- it is new, it is revolutionary. And it doesn't mandate it from Washington, it says let the communities, let the states, let the families have a say in deciding what kind of education is best for our own children. (Applause.)

And, yes, we are opening more and more doors of opportunity for Americans. And now we must address ways we can strengthen our national spirit and return to the bedrock principles -- faith, family -- that made our nation great.

I would hate to be taking a case to the American people in the fall that was predicated on everything being bad; that the only way you can win is if the country's going to hell in a handbasket. And we are America, and we are moving forward and by fall we are going to show them that the positive message of change is the message of hope for the American people. (Applause.)

John McCain and I have the responsibility to provide the leadership that we need, the country needs to get back to sound principles upon which our nation was founded; principles that helped make us the world's leading nation, and principles that gave us a standard of living that is the envy of the entire world.

The cynics say that social conditions are too bad to turn around. And the skeptics say that faith and ideals are puny and inconsequential when put up against the problems that we face as a nation. Well, I think they're wrong. I believe, along with Calvin Coolidge, "there is no force so democratic as the force of an ideal." And I believe that the forces of character, of compassion and goodness will ultimately triumph over the forces that can only tear down and destroy.

Tonight, as soon as we finish here, I'm going to be going back to Los Angeles to check on the progress of federal aid efforts out there and to expand on my ideas for an urban agenda, an agenda of hope and opportunity in all our cities. I might say I am very proud of the rapid response of our federal agencies to that crises out there. The Army, the Marines -- there to restore law and order; the SBA and HUD and Labor and FEMA, and Agriculture and HHS and others, too. And they responded fast, we did it in a coordinated way and all of them did very, very well.

But I am less proud of the fact that the Congress has not moved on our program to bring instant hope to the cities, not just Los Angeles but the cities all across our country -- on enterprise zones or on the other proposals that we've made that would instantly bring hope to the cities. And I challenge the Congress right here and now, please take action; let's set the partisanship aside for just long enough to get something done to help people in this country. (Applause.)

And so let the others out there take their message of pessimism. They say that America's best days are behind us. The truth is that our nation stands at a pinnacle of achievement that is unmatched. And we are the unquestioned leader of the free world, which now includes more countries than ever before. And all those new democracies are looking to America, to the United States of America, for leadership.

Yes, there is much left to be done in our own country. But many of the changes that we are pushing are stuck up there on Capitol Hill. There was no one who wants to work cooperatively with Congress any more than I do. And from my very first State of the Union address I held out my hand and said the people didn't send us here to bicker; let's try to get something done.

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I don't think there's anyone, I might say, who has been a better friend up there on Capitol Hill than John McCain because he understands these principles. He advocates them, articulates them. We bent over backwards to try to get the liberals who control Congress to support our efforts to reform, reform programs that simply are not working anymore. And we've tried to change things that aren't working. Now, the time has come to change the control of the United States Congress itself and watch this country move forward. (Applause.)

There is a mood for change. There was talk in all of them. And the nation needs an infusion of fresh, new Republican congressmen and senators who will be statesmen -- like Barry Goldwater, like John McCain -- leaders willing to try our new ideas. We unveiled this plan for the cities and some cynics out there on the Democratic side are saying, these aren't new you proposed them before. They are new because they have not been tried. We need people who will put the best interest of the nation first and foremost.

And there are other problems that government alone cannot reverse. At the top of that list is action to restore the American family. Simply put, our children cannot dream the American Dream when they are living a nightmare.

Look at a few brief and sad facts. In comparison with other industrialized countries, the Census Bureau found that the United States has the highest divorce rate, the highest number of children involved in divorce, the highest teenage pregnancy rates, the highest abortion rates, the highest percentage of children living in a single-parent household, the highest percentage of violent deaths among our precious young. These are not the kinds of records that we want to have as a great country.

Our federal government, of course, we have responsibilities. As President, I've got responsibilities in all of this. We must do more. We must do what we can. And the American people must do those things that government cannot do. Government can and must provide school choice, but parents must read to their kids and instill a love for learning. Government can and must fight crime, but fathers and mothers must teach discipline and instill values in their children. Government can and must foster American competitiveness, but parents must teach the kids the dignity of work.

To paraphrase that great philosopher of the silver hair, Barbara Bush -- (laughter) -- "What you teach at your house is more important than what happens at the White House." And she is absolutely right about that. (Applause.)

And so we're a country that has a lot of problems -- big problems. But I am absolutely convinced we can solve them. We have laid the groundwork and we've developed sound plans. And we can transform America into the nation we all want her to be.

It hasn't been much fun in the political arena lately. We've been hammered out there a little bit. Somebody said that builds character. I said, I'm a little long on character and looking forward to a change.

But let me tell you this. I am quietly confident about the election this fall. In sum, I am absolutely convinced as this economy moves back, as we sort out where everybody stands on these highly complex issues, when the country assesses the fact that we are at peace and that our children go to bed at night with less fear of nuclear war -- and that is a major accomplishment which I am very proud to have been a part -- (applause) -- and as when we get in focus the agenda -- see who wants to pass this agenda of hope and opportunity and who wants to stifle it, when we take forward the

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values that you and I believe in to the American people again this fall on family and faith, I am absolutely convinced we're going to win this election. We are going to win it. And we're going to transform our problems into challenging opportunities to realize the American Dream.

Thank you for your fantastic support for our great Senator. And may God bless you. And may God bless the United States of America, the freest and greatest country on the face of the Earth. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

6:41 P.M. MST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Phoenix, Arizona)

For Immediate Release

May 28, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE AMERICAN LEGION

American Legion
Phoenix, Arizona

4:55 P.M. MST

THE PRESIDENT: May I thank our great Senator John McCain for that introduction; and single out our Governor Fife Symington. Greetings to all the commanders on the dais -- Tony Valenzuela, Don Silva, Don Gentry. Thanks to our Master of Ceremonies Joe Abodeely. And it's great, of course, to see Everett Alvarez here.

And I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Stump, the Congressman from Arizona, the ranking Republican on the House Veterans Affairs Committee. He has worked hard on Capitol Hill for the veterans of this country. And I'm very sorry he couldn't be with us today, but I have great respect for his work.

It's not normal that I'm standing up here with three -- maybe you're used to it in this great state of Arizona -- but three winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor standing here. It really says something. And I salute all of them. (Applause.)

And I'd like to think in some cross-sectional way that people out here in this audience and standing behind me represent, at least for today, more than 26 million veterans. It's great to be back here. And an old saying goes save the best for last. Well, today we're saving the best for first, and the first campaign coalition to be announced for our campaign, Barry Goldwater, its honorary chairman; John McCain and Everett Alvarez its national chairmen -- and that is the Bush-Quayle '92 National Veterans Coalition. And they're going to be good and strong, and I'm glad to have their support. (Applause.)

Now, I hope you know why I insisted the veterans be first to be unveiled. You know how service has preserved the values that make and keep us strong. John touched on that in that wonderfully generous introduction. You know how veterans have given of themselves and often of their lives in places whose names we all know from the Argonne, Normandy, Danang, and of course, most recently, in the Persian Gulf.

And think of our kids and our grandkids, and they have inherited your bequest of faith in the country, in family, in democracy, in God. And they can never repay the veterans, all of you, for what you've done for freedom.

From the time the torch of liberty was first lit in America, veterans have shed their blood to make sure that it would never go out. And that's what this campaign must be about, what we've got to fight for, enlist our hearts and minds for -- to ensure people choice for the schools, for example, for a society, pluralism for God's children, the freedom to go about their lives, their daily lives free of fear.

And freedom can let us vote as we want and pray as we choose. And freedom can ensure the legacies for our kids of family, peace and jobs. And above all, freedom can secure what we fought for -- Guadalcanal or Inchon or Hue City or Kuwait City. A world where liberty's tide is coming in; it's running in, just as tyranny's tide is running out.

And I renew my pledge today in this opening to do all that's humanly possible to account for our comrades that are missing from the past wars. And as long as I am President we will never forget those POWs and MIAs. (Applause.) And another pledge -- as we move to a post-Cold War defense force, we cannot forget to take care of our military and civilian men and women who worked and fought so hard to ensure that freedom and democracy would prevail. And for them, we will continue to work together to make sure that American veterans receive quality health care that is second to none. (Applause.)

Now, there is a benefit to the end of the Cold War, and that is that there will be substantial defense savings made possible in this new environment. However, it is my conviction that this transition must be managed in a rational manner. First, we've got to achieve an orderly reduction in our forces. We're talking about 25 percent over the next five years -- that is substantial.

But as John McCain can tell you, there are people in the Congress that want to take everything out of defense and out of the national security and shift it over to some mandated program from Washington. Some have called for far deeper cuts than we have, and I reject this approach. As I told the graduating midshipmen down in Annapolis yesterday, never in the history of man has the world been a benign place. There is no substitute for America's strength, and no substitute for our sense of purpose. And I am not going to let the Congress gut the muscle of our defense. (Applause.)

Next, Secretary Cheney and I are mindful of our obligation to treat defense and uniform employees and their communities fairly. Our plan already includes spending more than \$7.1 billion to address defense transition over the next two years. And today I'm proposing a number of additional programs, including new G.I. bill benefits and an expansion of job training, employment, and other educational opportunities. And we're going to dedicate more than one billion additional dollars through 1996 on these vital defense transition activities.

Whether they're working as teachers in an elementary school or as environmental engineers, I am committed to ensuring that the vast talents of these former defense personnel can be put to productive use in private life.

And with us today are talented and capable men and women who believe in this new world of freedom. No one needs to tell them about the inhumanity of war. Instead, they know that only a strong America can preserve the humanity of peace. I am proud of these men and proud that they have agreed to help me. And I thank you for your support and hope to be worthy of your prayers.

Thirty years ago, Douglas MacArthur, put it well. Returning to the plain up at West Point, he gave a speech to the cadets. "The soldier," he told them, "above all other people prays for peace, for he must bare the deepest wounds and scares of war."

You've all been soldiers in the crusade of freedom and this year I ask you to reenlist and help keep America what Lincoln called "the last best hope of Earth." And for 200 years our veterans have fought for what is right and what is good. And I ask you to help me defend those values. And I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I am very happy that the young kids now, go to sleep every night without the fear, that constant fear of nuclear war that the generations before them had. I think that's a significant and a major accomplishment. And I have -- Barbara and I -- I have to think -- I was going to say 10; I think it's 12 grandchildren -- and I take great pride in that fact, that in some way perhaps my presidency was a part of all of that. (Applause.)

But that is there. And now we've got to keep this movement towards freedom and towards peace around the world going forward. We've got to do it. And with your help, I'm confident we can do it for the next four years.

Many, many thanks to all of you. (Applause.)

END

5:05 P.M. MST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Phoenix, Arizona)

For Immediate Release

May 28, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE AMERICAN LEGION

American Legion
Phoenix, Arizona

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And think of our kids and our grandkids, and they have inherited your bequest of faith in the country, in family, in democracy, in God. And they can never repay the veterans, all of you, for what you've done for freedom.

From the time the torch of liberty was first lit in America, veterans have shed their blood to make sure that it would never go out. And that's what this campaign must be about, what we've got to fight for, enlist our hearts and minds for -- to ensure people choice for the schools, for example, for a society, pluralism for God's children, the freedom to go about their lives, their daily lives free of fear.

And freedom can let us vote as we want and pray as we choose. And freedom can ensure the legacies for our kids of family, peace and jobs. And above all, freedom can secure what we fought for -- Guadalcanal or Inchon or Hue City or Kuwait City. A world where liberty's tide is coming in; it's running in, just as tyranny's tide is running out.

And I renew my pledge today in this opening to do all that's humanly possible to account for our comrades that are missing from the past wars. And as long as I am President we will never forget those POWs and MIAs. (Applause.) And another pledge -- as we move to a post-Cold War defense force, we cannot forget to take care of our military and civilian men and women who worked and fought so hard to ensure that freedom and democracy would prevail. And for them, we will continue to work together to make sure that American veterans receive quality health care that is second to none. (Applause.)

Now, there is a benefit to the end of the Cold War, and that is that there will be substantial defense savings made possible in this new environment. However, it is my conviction that this transition must be managed in a rational manner. First, we've got to achieve an orderly reduction in our forces. We're talking about 25 percent over the next five years -- that is substantial.

But as John McCain can tell you, there are people in the Congress that want to take everything out of defense and out of the national security and shift it over to some mandated program from Washington. Some have called for far deeper cuts than we have, and I reject this approach. As I told the graduating midshipmen down in Annapolis yesterday, never in the history of man has the world been a benign place. There is no substitute for America's strength, and no substitute for our sense of purpose. And I am not going to let the Congress gut the muscle of our defense. (Applause.)

Next, Secretary Cheney and I are mindful of our obligation to treat defense and uniform employees and their communities fairly. Our plan already includes spending more than \$7.1 billion to address defense transition over the next two years. And today I'm proposing a number of additional programs, including new G.I. bill benefits and an expansion of job training, employment, and other educational opportunities. And we're going to dedicate more than one billion additional dollars through 1996 on these vital defense transition activities.

Whether they're working as teachers in an elementary school or as environmental engineers, I am committed to ensuring that the vast talents of these former defense personnel can be put to productive use in private life.

And with us today are talented and capable men and women who believe in this new world of freedom. No one needs to tell them about the inhumanity of war. Instead, they know that only a strong America can preserve the humanity of peace. I am proud of these men and proud that they have agreed to help me. And I thank you for your support. I hope to be worthy of your prayers.

Thirty years ago, Douglas MacArthur, put it well. Returning to the plain up at West Point, he gave a speech to the cadets. "The soldier," he told them, "above all other people prays for peace, for he must bare the deepest wounds and scares of war."

You've all been soldiers in the crusade of freedom and this year I ask you to reenlist and help keep America what Lincoln called "the last best hope of Earth." And for 200 years our veterans have fought for what is right and what is good. And I ask you to help me defend those values. And I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I am very happy that the young kids now, go to sleep every night without the fear, that constant fear of nuclear war that the generations before them had. I think that's a significant and a major accomplishment. And I have -- Barbara and I -- I have to think -- I was going to say 10; I think it's 12 grandchildren -- and I take great pride in that fact, that in some way perhaps my presidency was a part of all of that. (Applause.)

But that is there. And now we've got to keep this movement towards freedom and towards peace around the world going forward. We've got to do it. And with your help, I'm confident we can do it for the next four years.

Many, many thanks to all of you. (Applause.)

END

5:05 P.M. MST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 13, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRESIDENT AYLWIN OF CHILE
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

The State Dining Room

8:13 P.M. EDT

PRESIDENT BUSH: Ladies and gentlemen, President Aylwin and Mrs. Aylwin, Barbara and I are just delighted to welcome you both to the White House and to try to return the warm reception that you gave to me, sir, and to our daughter when we had the honor of visiting you in Chile.

Among my memories of my visit to your country was a lunch that we shared at the lovely home of yours in Santiago. And I still recall with pride and delight that you took in your children and your grandchildren. We did a little arithmetic yesterday, and between us, we have 10 children and 23 grandchildren. (Applause.) Perhaps we could arrange for a soccer game out on the South Lawn. (Laughter.)

It has been said, Mr. President, that the greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children. Your country's bright future lies in the hands and hearts of a free-born people, determined to see their children born free, passing liberty from mother to daughter, father to son.

Today I was reminded how your father, an esteemed Supreme Court Justice, passed his love of law and liberty to his son, you, yourself a revered legal scholar. And I thought of how more than 60 years ago our Louis Brandeis observed that the "final end of the state was to make men free to develop their faculties." And he added that those who love freedom know "liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty."

Justice Brandeis could find no better example of courage in pursuit of liberty than the Chilean people and their leader. Today, Chileans are "free to develop their faculties" to the fullest, having at last inherited the political and economic rights their parents worked to achieve. And they've also assumed liberty's responsibilities: the knowledge that freedom taken for granted can become freedom taken away.

Chile continues the hard work of freedom: defending democracy in Venezuela and Haiti and Peru -- promoting peace in Central America and in the Middle East.

Mr. President, I know that Chile will continue to export its material goods. I know also it will export its dreams: the courage, hope, the imagination of free markets and free peoples.

Chile teaches others that political differences never excuse indifference to the law and that social needs are better met by the invisible hand of the free market than by the iron fist of regulatory control and bureaucracy.

President Aylwin and I share a vision of free trade for all the hemisphere. The United States is now negotiating a free meeting my children and my grandchildren at the time your wife.

MORE

trade agreement with Mexico and Canada as a first step toward that goal. And as a result of our discussions today and in recognition of Chile's economic accomplishments and achievements, I want to announce that the United States intends to negotiate a comprehensive free trade agreement with Chile upon the conclusion of the North American Free Trade Agreement. And I intend to send notification to the Congress in accord with the fast track procedures at that time.

Thirty years ago, President Eisenhower spoke to your people saying, "We in the Western Hemisphere are still young nations still growing, still experimenting." And I really believe that's still true today because democracy is as young as our children, as all the children of the world.

And, Mr. President, may I propose a toast to you. And may I suggest we rise and lift our glasses. To you, Mr. President, to Mrs. Aylwin, to Chile and to the bonds of friendship between our two people.

(A toast is offered.) (Applause.)

PRESIDENT AYLWIN: Mr. President, Mrs. Bush, ever since we can remember to share a table has been a sign of hospitality. On behalf of the people of Chile, I thank you for this warm welcome that I receive as a symbol of the friendship between our nations.

I bring from Chile the appreciation of my people for this country, marked from its very beginning by the seal of liberty, as well as their admiration for its scientific and technical progress and for the work of its poets and artists.

I bring from Chile the hopes of a people that loves freedom and justice, that has struggled for them in the southern most regions of our continent and that wishes to collaborate in the effort to make these values prevail all over the world.

Mr. President, the United States and Latin America have had a history paradoxically close and remote, of agreements and dissensions, of prejudices and shared values. Nature brought us together, but we never knew of it until history told us so. And today she is repeating it with unprecedented vigor. The triumph of the principles of liberty in every corner of the Earth offers us the great opportunity to build a new stage in hemispheric relations.

Our unity today is founded on the defense of democracy as the only political system that respects and furthers the dignity of the human person within the defense of economic and trade freedoms and of the huge natural wealth that God granted us from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego.

Nevertheless, in our Latin America, this democracy has been until now an unfinished promise. We are convinced that we will be unable to consolidate itself while all its people do not share in the benefits of development. And this development requires an active participation in the new international economy. This is, therefore, our mutual challenge.

It is gratifying for me to indicate that in our talks today we have taken new steps in that direction. We have assumed the commitment to negotiate a free trade agreement between Chile and the United States. And President George Bush has the intention of using the procedures of the fast track, the only one that ensures a success of such a complex association as this one. And it is at the conclusion of the NAFTA procedure that he will notify Congress on this matter.

Dear Mr. President, during your visit to Chile, we shared our table in my home. And you were kind enough to remember meeting my children and my grandchildren. At the time your wife,

Barbara, was not with us. We are very happy that she is joining us this evening so that we may all make a toast to the future.

The family has been, for you and me, the sound basis of our life, the source of our strength and the motivation of our dreams. So is the great American continent, its happiness and prosperity.

I invite you to make a toast for President Bush tonight, for his wife Barbara and for the prosperity of both our countries.

(A toast is offered.) (Applause.)

END

8:30 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)

For Immediate Release

May 8, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE COMMUNITY LEADERS OF LOS ANGELES

Challenger Boys and Girls Club
Los Angeles, California

9:18 A.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: I would get off to a bad start if I didn't say what I think everybody else is feeling, and I want to just congratulate Larisse for that marvelous rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner. (Applause.)

And may I first thank all of you for being here today. I think they were introduced at the very beginning, but I want to single out two members of my Cabinet, Secretary Lou Sullivan of HHS and Secretary Jack Kemp from Housing and Urban Development who are here with me. We've really had a good tour. I want to salute Senator Seymour; Governor Wilson, who's been at my side -- both of them -- as we've made this tour through the city. Pat Saiki of SBA, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, came out early and she is on the ground and doing a first-class job. And, of course, I would like to also salute Mayor Tom Bradley who has been so extraordinarily helpful on this visit. (Applause.)

And I'm not going to forget the inspirational leader of the Challenger, Lou Dantzler. (Applause.)

I would also say to the city officials that I can just imagine, given what you all have been through, the headache that this visit has caused. And I promise you we plan to leave right on schedule so things can get back to normal. But I want to thank everybody involved in facilitating this visit that came, I'm sure, at a very complicated time for the city. The Governor, the Mayor, the police, the L.A. community -- everyone has been just fantastic.

And let me say I am truly heartened by the speed with which the millions of dollars of federal relief have reached the city -- from FEMA grants to the small business loans to urgent food aid. And I salute David Kearns and others who came here to coordinate -- not to dictate, not to try to dominate, but to coordinate with the city and local officials. And I'm very pleased to see that there is smooth coordination, everyone pulling together on the federal, state, and local level.

It was important I feel that, as President, I come here to Los Angeles. The community has been the site of a terrible tragedy. Not just for you who were impacted the most, but for our entire country. And everyone around the world feels this trauma. Everyone who looks to us as a model of freedom and justice.

And that's why I want to say just a few things about my visit, to speak to you about what I've seen in this city and, most importantly, as I said at that marvelous ecumenical church service yesterday at Mt. Zion, we are one people, we are one family, we are one nation under God. And so I want to speak about our course as a nation.

MORE

I can hardly imagine. -- I try, but I can hardly imagine the fear and the anger that people must feel to terrorize one another and burn each other's property. But I saw remarkable signs of hope right next to the tragic signs of hatred. This marvelous institution, this Boys and Girls Club stands unscarred, facing a burned-out block. And its leader is this wonderful man next to me, Lou Dantzler. And he started it on the back of an old pickup truck with a group of kids that wanted to get off the street. And it's existence proves the power of our better selves. And let's never forget it, and let's count our blessings. (Applause.)

Now let me personalize it a little bit and tell you why clubs like this matter. A story about a little kid, Rudy Campbell. I saw him on television. He looked about eight years old. His father was murdered a few years back, and I didn't see his mother. Rudy is raised by his 22-year-old sister who has five kids of her own. And he lives in South Central. Think about what he has already been through. Now he says he fears that things will only get "badder and badder and badder." And it breaks your heart, and our children deserve better than that. (Applause.)

I talked a week ago about the law and the pursuit of justice. And today I want to talk about what went wrong in L.A. and the underlying causes of the root problems. It can all be debated, and it should be, but not to assign blame. Casting blame gets us absolutely nowhere. Honest talk and principled action can move us forward. And that's what we've got to do for Rudy; that's what we've got to do for our children -- these kids right here.

This tragedy seemed to come suddenly, but I think we would all agree it's been many years in the making. I know it will take time to put things right. I could have said "put things right again," but that would miss a point I want to make: Things weren't right before a week ago Wednesday. Things aren't right in too many cities across our country. And we must not return to the status quo. Not here -- (applause) -- not here, not in any city where the system perpetuates failure and hatred and poverty and despair.

Most Americans now recognize some unpleasant realities. Let me just spend a minute on those. For many years we've tried many different programs. All of them -- let's understand this -- had noble intentions. To meet the need of adequate housing or education or health care. Much of it went to construct what has been known as "the safety net," a compassionate safety net to provide security and stability for people in need.

Many other programs and policies aimed at stemming the tide of urban violence and drugs and crime and social decay. And we have spent huge sums of money. Some estimates are as high as \$3 trillion over 25 years. And even in the last decade federal spending went up for these kinds of efforts -- everything from child care to welfare to health care has been the subject of some commission or report or study.

But where this path has taken us I think we would all agree is not really where we wanted to go. Put away the studies and just look around. For anyone who cares about our young people, it is painful that in 1960 the percentage of births to unwed mothers was five percent, and now it is 27 percent. It's hard to read about a young black man dying when the odds are almost one out of two that he was murdered. Kids used to carry their lunches to school; and the parents that I've talked to know that today some kids carry guns. I'm afraid some of you kids -- you know that, too. Everyone knows that drug and alcohol abuse are serious problems almost everywhere.

In the wake of the L.A. riots, in the wake of a lost generation of inner city lives, can any one of us argue that we have solved the problems of poverty and racism and crime? And the answer clearly is no. Some programs, ones like Head Start or Aid to the Elderly, have shown some time-tested, positive results. All programs were well-intentioned; I understand that very, very well. Many simply have not worked.

Our welfare system does not get people off of welfare, it keeps people trapped there. The statistics are sobering. The reality is sobering. The sum and substance is this: the cities are in serious trouble, and too many of our citizens are in trouble. And it doesn't really have to be this way.

Government has an absolute responsibility to solve this problem, these problems. I'm talking about all levels of government. And I've taken a hard look at what the government can do and how it can help communities with concerns that really matter -- how people can own property, own their own home, start a business, create jobs, and ensure that people -- not government -- make the big decisions that affect the health and the education and the care of one's own family.

Think of the way that the world looks right now to the single mother on welfare. Government provides you just enough cash for the bare necessities. Government tells you where you can live, where your kids go to school. And when you're sick, government tells you what kind of care you get and when. And if you find a job, the government cuts the welfare benefits. And if you save, if you manage to put a little money away -- maybe towards a home or to help your kid get through college -- the government says, hey, welfare fraud. Every one of those things happens with the system that we have in place right now. And then we wonder, why can't folks on welfare take control of their lives? Where's there sense of responsibility?

Well, if we had set out to devise a system that would perpetuate dependency, a system that would strip away dignity and personal responsibility, I guess we could hardly have done better than the system that exists today. Every American knows that it is time for a fresh approach, a radical change in the way we look at welfare and the inner city economy.

Every hour of meetings yesterday -- and they were, for me, very emotional, very moving -- confirmed why I believe in the plan that we have proposed for urban America. I kept hearing words like ownership, independence, dignity, enterprise -- a lot of time from people who have never had a shot at dignity or enterprise or ownership. And it reinforced my belief that we must start with a set of principles and policies that foster personal responsibility, that refocus entitlement programs to serve those who are most needy, and increase the effectiveness of government service through competition and true choice.

I believe in keeping power closer to the people -- using states as laboratories for innovation. We cannot figure it all out back in Washington, D.C., in some subcommittee or in the White House. And I believe in policies that encourage entrepreneurship, increase investment, create jobs.

And these form the heart of the agenda for economic opportunity that I want to mention here. Families can't thrive, children can't learn, jobs can't flourish in a climate of fear, however. And so first is our responsibility to preserve the domestic order. And a civilized society cannot tackle any of the really tough problems in the midst of chaos. And you know and I know it's just that simple. Violence and brutality destroy order, destroy the rule of law. And violence must never be rationalized. Violence must always be condemned.

We can reclaim our crime-ravaged neighborhoods through a new initiative that we call Weed and Seed. And today I'm announcing a \$19-million Weed and Seed operation for the City of Los Angeles to weed out the drug dealers and career criminals and then seed those neighborhoods with expanded educational employment and social services. (Applause.) With safe and secure neighborhoods we can spark an economic revival in urban American.

And so the second part of the agenda is to ask Congress to take action on enterprise zones. (Applause.) With a zero capital gains rate -- create these zones with a zero capital gains rate for entrepreneurs and investors who locate businesses and create jobs right here in America's inner cities. (Applause.)

And, yes, I recognize that at the same time, we must help states bring innovation to the welfare systems. And at the federal level, we've got to reform our own AFDC rules; stop penalizing people who want to work and save. (Applause.) These are the people who are mustering the individual initiative to get off welfare. And we've got to pledge ourselves to, at the federal level, change the rules that keep them from doing just that.

Three: safe, drug-free schools are places where our children can learn, but that's not enough. We've got to revolutionize our schools through community action, through competition, through innovation, through choice -- principles at the heart of the strategy that we call America 2000. We must give children -- these kids, these kids right here -- the same opportunity as kids out in the suburbs. (Applause.)

And the fourth point: we must promote new hope through homeownership. People want a real stake -- a real stake in their community, something of value that they can pass along to their kids. And that's what this HOPE initiative does. It turns public housing tenants into homeowners.

Now, these are just the highlight of an action agenda to bring hope and opportunity back to our inner cities. We have other ideas to try as well. Many in this room have innovative ideas they're trying right now.

My first order of business upon my return to Washington will be to build a bipartisan effort in support of immediate action on this agenda. And I know some will say, well, you've proposed all this before; and that's true, they're right. And I'm proposing it again. Because really, we must try something new. We've got to try something new. (Applause.) It does not take a social scientist to know that we must think differently. We've tried the old ways of thinking. And now, as Lincoln says, "It is time to think anew."

And our approach is really a radical break from the policies of the past. It's new -- yes, it's new because it's never been tried before. And for the sake of the people of South Central, and the people in America's inner cities everywhere, I will work with the Congress to act now on this common-sense agenda.

You've been through an awful lot. You've been through an awful lot. And when I saw the verdict in the King case my reaction was the same as yours; I told the nation that. But I remain confident in our system of justice. And when I saw the violence and rage erupt in your streets my reaction was the same as yours. We all knew we had to restore order. And when I saw and read about the heroic acts of firefighters and police, or the selfless acts of so many citizens, my reaction was one of relief, one of hope for the future.

This morning I stopped by the hospital, Cedar, to see a young fireman who had been wantonly shot in the head as he was driving a fire truck to go out and put out fires that were ravaging somebody's neighborhood -- maybe yours. The man's fighting for his life. And I think when we all go home we ought to pray for him.

In the very short time that I've been out here I could sense that the real anguish in South Central L.A. is a parent's concern about the kids -- neighbors' concerns about the kids. And people are worried sick about the children. All must agree that whatever we do must be about the children. (Applause.) These kids are our future. And our actions in the wake of the tragedy are for them -- not just here in Los Angeles. This is showcase now because of what you've been through, but it's all across the country.

And so for these remarks I've mentioned what government can do. And now let me talk just a little about what society must do. And, yes, we have tried hard, spent a lot of money and haven't solved the problems. And some critics say that we are a morally, spiritually and intellectually bankrupt nation. I don't believe that for one single minute. (Applause.)

And, yes, we have problems. We have tough problems to solve. But we remain the freest and the fairest and the most just and the most decent country on the face of the entire Earth. And we now -- I know that we have the drive and the gumption to prevail over these problems we face.

Tom Bradley, your Mayor, was among a group of mayors who came to see me last January. He and I may differ on how we approach one federal program or another. But I've repeated often what he and others said to me that day. They said that the most important problem facing our cities is the dissolution, the decline of the American family. And they're absolutely right. He was right; a mayor from a tiny town in North Carolina, he was right. The decline of the family is something we must be concerned about. And history tells us that society cannot succeed without some fundamental building blocks in place.

The state of our nation is the state of our communities. And good communities are safe and decent. And the young people are cared for and they're instilled with character and values and good habits for life. Good communities have good schools. And they provide opportunity and hope, rooted in the dignity of work and reward for achievement.

And that's why guaranteeing a hopeful future for the children of our cities is about a lot more than rebuilding burned-out buildings. It's about the love right here under this roof. It's about building a new American community. It's about rebuilding bonds between individuals and among ethnic groups and among races. And we must not let our diversity destroy us. It is central -- you see, it is central to our strength as a nation.

Our ability to live and work together has really made America the inspiration to the entire world. (Applause.) Across this country, tens of thousands of groups, hundreds of thousands of individuals who have never been involved before, who will never be paid one single nickel for their efforts, must become partners in solving our most serious social problems.

The people right here in this room know exactly what I'm talking about. An officer in the LAPD who's a board chairman right here, I believe, in this organization, giving of his time -- he knows what I'm talking about. Government alone cannot create the scale and energy needed to transform the lives of the people in need.

And I look around this auditorium and I am preaching to the choir, because you're the ones that have your sleeves

rolled up in your churches and in your communities, trying to help the other guy. In my conversations with the leaders of L.A.'s many communities, I heard over and over again that L.A. has many of the answers within itself. (Applause.)

I see our friend, Bill Milliken here. He lives halfway across the country. There are four of his Cities in School programs, helping children learn here. And many members of a group called 100 Black Men, an inspirational group -- (applause.) They mentor -- for those not familiar with it, they mentor to the kids, the boys in South Central.

Now, if instead -- instead of four there were 25 Cities in School programs, and instead of 100, 10,000 black men working with boys, and so on with the hundreds of people in groups that work with the kids, there is no question that what happened last week wouldn't have been as bad. And so it only makes sense that a large part of our challenge is to dramatically expand in community after community the scale of what we already know works.

The phrase that I've repeated a lot and perhaps more than any other is worth repeating: From now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. (Applause.) And when we look to restoring a decent and hopeful future for our children, I mean this about every community. First, every group and institution in America -- schools, businesses, churches, certainly -- must do its part: We must praise what works and share what works.

And secondly, all leaders -- all leaders -- must mobilize and inspire their people to take action.

And third, community centers must link those that care with those that are crying out for help.

And fourth, with respect, the media needs to show from time to time what's working, needs to cover what is working. (Applause.)

And that way would help us share, that would really help us share and repeat these successes many times over.

And, finally -- this one perhaps a little technical -- but we've got to change our liability laws that frighten people away from helping others. We ought to care for each other more and sue each other less. (Applause.)

But there's something else. There's something else that society must cultivate that government cannot possibly provide. Something we can't legislate, something we can't establish by government order. And I'm talking about the moral sense that must guide us all. The simplest -- I guess the simplest way to put it is, I'm talking about knowing right from wrong and then trying to do what's right.

Let me come back again to the little boy I spoke about earlier -- Rudy Campbell. Remember -- "badder, badder, badder." There's a lesson he learned that survived the horror and the hate. And in the midst of all the chaos, in the midst of so much that's gone wrong, he knows what's right. When he was asked about the violence, here's what he said: "They should know what's right and wrong. Because when I was four, that's what I learned."

Now, that has got to give us hope. May God bless the person who cared enough to teach that little guy right from wrong. (Applause.) But it's up to us to guarantee that all the millions of kids like him grow up in a better America.

And I believe we are right about family. We're right about freedom and free enterprise. And we're right with

respect to the clergymen here and the church men and church women here. We are right about faith. And most of all, we are right about America's future.

You see, I fervently believe that we have the strength and the spirit in our government. You can see it here today -- in our communities and in ourselves to transform America into the nation that we have dreamed of for generations.

May God bless each and every one of you in your work. And thank you very, very much.

END

10:48 A.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Dearborn, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

April 14, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO GIDDINGS & LEWIS FRASER PLANT EMPLOYEES
AND MACOMB COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Giddings & Lewis Manufacturing Facility
Fraser, Michigan

2:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. And, Governor Engler, thank you. I'm proud to be introduced by our great Governor here. I want to salute our Secretary of Labor, Lynn Martin. You met her when she came in. She is doing a lot, an awful lot in terms of job retraining, in terms of hope and opportunity for America's workers.

I want to thank the CEO of Giddings & Lewis and Bill Fife here, who greeted us and has given us a short tour. Thanks to some of the workers here in this wonderful plant; and then to Barbara Hollett and Linda Walling, and Geary Maiuri and James Williams Warren, and to all the others from the six chambers of commerce. May I thank you for being here. I just want you to know I'm delighted to be with you today.

I'm sorry that Barbara Bush is not here. She's out in the state of Oregon today. But I take great pride in the fact that she's doing her part. I see these kids here trying to hit a blow for literacy in this country, and she asked me to extend her very best wishes.

I want to talk to you today about the things that we really must do together -- government and business, public servants, private citizens -- to leave our children a legacy worthy of this great country of ours. You see, I am not one who is so pessimistic about America. We are the leaders of the world, the undisputed leaders of the world, and now we've got great things to do here at home. I think that we've got to agree on what that legacy is going to be. Clearly, we want a world at peace. People say to the American people: Well, how are things going? And I take great pride in the fact that -- see these little kids here -- they won't go to sleep at night worrying about nuclear warfare the way the generations preceding had done. We want a world at peace. We want strong, wholesome families; and we want an economy that provides rewarding jobs for all.

More than any country on Earth, America has afforded each generation the opportunity to leave such a legacy. Today, we have that opportunity once again. The world is changing at a pace undreamed of a generation ago. And now America, which has led the world's transformation, must change as well. This afternoon I want to discuss five areas which I believe are overdue for reform -- five key ways in which America must change, if we are to honor coming generations with the legacy that they deserve.

As businessmen and -women and as Giddings & Lewis employees you understand the urgency. For each of these five problems presents itself to you not as some abstraction, but in the most immediate way: as a cost -- a cost of doing business. Too often these costs are beyond your control, drawing resources away from your primary goals of expanding your companies and creating good jobs for your communities.

When our legal system -- and the Governor touched on this -- becomes incapable of resolving disputes in a civil and timely manner, business loses the incentive to innovate, loses the incentive to take risks. And when health care costs escalate, business picks up much of the tab. And when government imposes barriers to trade, business pays the cost in lost markets. And then when our kids, our children leave school without rudimentary skills, business bears in the lost productivity. And when government freezes in gridlock, business can no longer plan rationally for the future.

So let me start with Washington -- and again, the Governor referred to that -- if America is going to change, the government must change. Ten days ago, I presented seven specific proposals to cure the paralysis that grips the United States Congress. My proposals range from an elimination of these special-interest Political Action Committees, these PACs, elimination, not reduction, but elimination, extends to a line-item veto, which will allow us at last to get a handle on this deficit that is mortgaging the future of these children here today. And I think it's high time that we limited the number of terms that Members of Congress may serve. (Applause.)

My aim is simple: We must create a flexible government, responsive to the common good. And I have tried -- I have tried over the past three years to invest my administration with this sort of flexibility. Now, let me give you a few examples of special concern right here to Macomb County.

A reformed government knows its limits, refusing to impose undue burdens on business and consumers alike. For that reason, I've made it clear to Congress: This is no time to legislate an increase in the CAFE standards that would cost American jobs in the automotive industry. And I will not accept such legislation.

A reformed government encourages innovation. Last October, by way of example, my administration joined with the Big Three, the automobile companies, to develop a new generation of batteries. And our goal: To make American car companies first in the world in producing competitive electric cars by the year 2000.

A reformed government finds flexible means to reach its goals. Our approach to the 1990 Clean Air Act, which requires deep reductions in air pollution, is a good example. To help communities and industries meet the objectives of that act, we've initiated a "Cash for Clunkers" program, allowing states and companies to buy high-polluting old cars, get them off the road, and use the reduction in pollution to satisfy our clean air standards.

Flexibility, accountability, a willingness to innovate -- Americans have a right to expect each of these from their government, and particularly from the United States Congress. Yet instead we get business as usual. I'll give you another example, dealing with a second area urgently in need of reform -- the nation's legal system.

Our country -- and this isn't true just of business, this is true of neighborhoods, true of towns and city governments -- our country is swamped in frivolous lawsuits. We tried to make a good start at reform in 1990, when I introduced a bill to reform product liability laws. Congress wouldn't budge. So we reintroduced the reform again in 1991. And the Senate Democrats refuse even to bring that bill to a vote; in the House, it's stuck in two -- that's right, two separate committees.

This inaction is inexcusable. America, regrettably, has become the most litigious society on Earth, and American companies pay the price -- not only in dollars wasted but in lower productivity and a business environment hostile even to

ordinary competitive practices. According to a recent survey, 40 percent of companies that had been the target of product liability suits have discontinued certain types of product research.

None of our competitors is afflicted with lawsuit madness; we must remove this ball-and-chain from our ability to compete worldwide. And our Competitiveness Council, led by the Vice President, has offered 50 recommendations for legal reform, including reasonable limits to the discovery process, alternative means of resolving disputes, and a "loser-pays" rule that would discourage the frivolous lawsuits. I urge you to urge Congress to help stop lawsuit madness. We must help each other more and sue each other less. (Applause.)

I'll give you an example. A lot of the people here in this plant I'm sure have kids in little league. Some of you may coach little league, like I did 1000 years ago. And some people are refusing to coach little league because they're afraid of some frivolous lawsuit. Doctors afraid of delivering babies because of a frivolous lawsuit. We really have to change this litigious society into a more gentle and a more friendly society.

Our comprehensive legal reform will be far-reaching, extending, then, into a third area critically in need of change -- our nation's health system. Everybody here I'm sure is concerned about the health care system. The litigation explosion has hit Michigan's health care hard. Every year your physicians and hospitals pay almost \$500 million for medical liability coverage -- \$500 million. For the patient, that translates into an extra \$300 added on to the average hospital bill.

The trends are simply unsustainable. Some estimates say that by 2030, the year 2030 -- that's only, what, 38 years away -- we will spend 30 cents of every dollar of national income on health care. Again, much of the burden falls on business. Right now, American corporations spend more on health care each year than they earn in after-tax profits.

Now, we've got to stop this drain on our country's productivity. My proposed health care reform will build on our system's assets -- especially in preserving the quality of care. We've still got the world's finest quality health care. We will reform the private insurance market, and increase consumer choice. Through transferable tax credits we will bring coverage to those who are uninsured, and control costs through market incentives. And we will avoid the pitfalls of what I would see as a nationalized care, with the rationing and the long waiting lines, and mediocre quality that comes with it. Health care reform must hew to this principle -- government has no business dictating what kind of health care you want to choose, dictating what kind of health care you receive. (Applause.)

I target then a fourth area for attention -- like the others -- absolutely critical for our success in the coming decades. With its global reach, this great company, Giddings & Lewis, exemplifies an indisputable truth about our future: If America is to succeed economically at home, we must succeed economically abroad. And in the postwar period, trade-related jobs have grown three times faster than the overall job creation. Exports have accounted for 70 percent of our economy's growth over the past three years.

We will build on this success by continuing to open foreign markets to American goods and services -- including the world's second largest market economy -- Japan. And since I took office, our exports to Japan have grown 10 times faster than our imports from Japan, and our manufactured products are leading this expansion. That boom has already created an additional 200,000 jobs here at home.

And that's why we made this now-famous trip to Japan. I heard some criticism of that trip, but let's get the facts straight about what we accomplished. Of special interest to many of you, for example, was the pledge by private Japanese companies to increase the purchase of U.S.-made auto parts from \$9 billion to \$19 billion by 1994.

And we didn't stop there. As a result of our trip, we've opened up Japan's \$4-billion glass market, its \$9-billion public-sector computer market, and its \$27-billion paper market -- offering American business enormous opportunities to sell American goods and that, of course, means to create American jobs.

And if we are to take advantage of the opportunities, we must stay abroad. We must have a world-class work force. And yet the grim fact is undeniable: our current education system is unable to produce the workers the highly competitive world market demands.

The only solution left to us is radical change. That means we must literally reinvent American education. And on Thursday, I'm going to discuss the progress we've made in the year since we launched our America 2000 education initiative, a revolutionary movement that challenges every community to create what we call break-the-mold schools. We know how to do it. We set world-class standards for students. We redouble our efforts to rid our schools of drugs and violence -- to cleanse America of this scourge that wastes so many young lives. And we make schools more accountable by forcing them to compete. And that means letting parents choose their children's schools -- public, private, or religious. We must have that kind of choice to bring real competition into the classroom. (Applause.)

And we need to take the same bold approach to job training, to provide Americans with the skills that this age of intense international competition demands. And I have developed such an approach, working with the Secretary here, and when Congress returns from recess, we will submit the Job Training 2000 Act.

Our current job training system is merely -- it's kind of a crazy-quilt of good intentions. Over the years Congress has put in place scores of training programs but they are uncoordinated, sometimes redundant, and too often unaccountable. This year, seven different federal agencies will administer some 60 training programs, at a cost of \$18 billion.

And with this jumble, is it any wonder that an 18-year-old, fresh from high school, doesn't know where to go for career guidance. Or that an unemployed older worker, eager to learn a new trade, is confused about how to find training. Or that a young parent on welfare, in search of a rewarding job, can't find advice on which trade school to attend, or which career to pursue.

Unscrupulous operators, these fly-by-night trade schools prey on this confusion, and they take advantage of the system's lack of accountability. And they recruit the naive or somebody that's so desperate even though they know it's bad, they're willing to take a chance. Signing them up for thousands of dollars in grants or loans, offer a few weeks training, and then leave the people burdened with debt.

A truly competitive America can't afford this waste of talent and energy. And it's not fair to the American worker. Job Training 2000 will disentangle that knot of federal programs and make them serve the people who need them. And here are the key elements of this plan. First, it will create one-stop shopping for vocational training in every community. Second, it will certify programs so that they meet the needs of the local

labor markets. And third, it will offer vouchers so aspiring workers can choose the training they want.

Along with Job Training 2000, I'm going to submit to Congress an important new initiative: it's called the Youth Apprenticeship Act of 1992. Apprenticeship is one of the surest routes into the world of work, and we need to make it more widely available to our young people. And at the same time, we've got to encourage them to complete a sound high school education that prepares them for a lifetime of learning. The Act accomplishes both these goals, making it easier for kids in the 11th and 12th grades to combine on-the-job training with their regular studies at school. And when they graduate from school, they will have not only a certificate that attests to their job skills, but a diploma that represents a substantial and varied education.

Now, to get that Apprenticeship Act up and running, we will be offering demonstration grants to six states: California, Iowa, Maine, Oregon, Wisconsin and right here in Michigan -- as well as a series of local areas. We owe our young people -- we owe every American who seeks to climb the ladder of economic advantage -- the finest job, the finest job the training system in the world can produce; and I mean to see that they get it. (Applause.)

Therefore I want to challenge the United States Congress to pass both of these initiatives -- Job Training 2000 and the Youth Apprenticeship Act -- this session, before the Congress adjourns for the year. But as you know, I'm the first to admit that I can't always count on Congress to act, no matter how great the urgency. For real education reform I enlisted the help of the nation's governors. You may remember this a couple of years ago, we got together at Charlottesville, Virginia. So far 43 governors have responded by enrolling their states in this program we call America 2000.

And now I ask their help again. I call on the governors here today -- all of the governors around the country -- to initiate Job Training 2000 strategies in their own states; several are already hard at work. And I ask every governor to bring together labor and business leaders with local officials to consolidate their own job training programs. And wherever possible, my administration will grant waivers to accelerate these efforts. And we will provide incentive grants to help them get started.

Each of the reforms that I've outlined here today -- making government accountable and flexible, restoring sanity to our legal system, ensuring quality health care for all, expanding world trade, and reinventing American education and job training for tomorrow's work force -- each shares a single goal: To ensure that America remains the undisputed leader of the world, the freest, most prosperous and competitive nation on Earth. (Applause.)

And each of these reforms grows from a fundamental, uniquely American principle. Thomas Jefferson said it best: "The pillars of our prosperity are the most thriving when left most free to individual enterprise." And in practice, that means government must trust the wisdom of markets more than the whims of bureaucrats. And the freely-made decisions of the people must take precedence over the engineering schemes of government. (Applause.) And all our institutions -- from Congress to the local trade school -- must be accountable to those that they serve.

Over the last decade, America has changed the world. Today we're blessed with the opportunity to change America. I couldn't help thinking about that sentence, "Over the last decade, America has changed the world." As I was walking along the line here and reading the computer screen in English and then in what the man running the screen told me was Russian. I had to

take his word for that. But here was a shipment going off -- a machine going off to Russia.

We have a tremendous opportunity, and I intend to see that we continue to lead the world. And in so doing, we will be offering enormous job opportunities, expanded job markets for the American worker. We cannot pull back. We cannot withdraw into some sphere of isolation.

And so as your President, I take great pride in the fact we've helped change the world. And now I can tell you we are going to make these changes at home that will enable us to remain the undisputed -- the undisputed admired leader of this changing world in which we live.

Thank you all very much. And may God bless each and every one of you and your families. And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

3:15 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 20, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND POLITICAL LEADERS

The East Room

4:04 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome to the White House. Fifty-two days ago in my State of the Union address, I asked Congress to act on my agenda for economic growth. And I asked for immediate action by March 20th on a series of proposals to help rekindle the economic recovery. And I asked the Democratic leadership to put partisanship aside, pledging to do the same, in order to enact seven sensible steps to increase investment, strengthen the value of American homes, and creates jobs.

Well, March 20th has arrived, and no recovery bill of any kind has come to the White House as of now.

This morning, the congressional conferees finished work on a tax bill. It would increase taxes and harm the economy. And so today I am doing three things. First, I have just signed the veto message to stop the Democrats' tax increase. (Applause.) And second, I am taking several additional steps on my own to help the recovery with or without action by Congress. And, third, while the Democratic leadership in Congress is in disarray, I am proposing action on the real challenges facing America on my long-term plans to help America compete in the global economy of the future.

Now is the time for real significant change. And I am disappointed in Congress. In fairness, some Democrats did not want to put a tax increase in the bill. And I salute them for courageously standing up against more taxes. But politics prevailed. A slim majority passed the bill in the face of a certain veto. But they aren't blocking my economic recovery plan because they're afraid it won't work; they're blocking it because they're afraid it will work. (Applause.)

I do not take this step lightly. No President has vetoed a major tax bill since Harry Truman did it in 1948. But I submitted an economic growth plan to Congress for a reason: to promote a recovery in which every American has an interest. The package I proposed was carefully tailored. It was paid for without raising taxes. It was designed to encourage and strengthen the positive economic signs we're beginning to see: home sales and housing starts up as interest rates stay down; retail sales improving; 164,000 new jobs last month alone.

In response, the Democratic Congress has returned to form. It's produced a bill that will not strengthen the economy; it will weaken it. It's produced a bill that will not stimulate growth; it will stifle it. As if by reflex, the Democrats in Congress could not resist their natural impulse to raise taxes. But I assure you of this, I simply will not let them do it. (Applause.)

So moments ago I signed the veto message for the Democrats' tax increase, because raising taxes will not help create

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jobs. And the bill is not yet here, but the conference report tells me all I need to know. And when the bill is sent down tonight, this signed message will be waiting for it and my veto will go back to the Hill the minute the bill arrives. And needless to say, I will not send it back via the House post office. (Laughter and applause.)

The message is clear: My veto and a block of votes ready to sustain it stands ready to stop any tax increase on the American people.

With that clear, I ask the Democratic leadership to put aside once and for all the idea of a tax increase. And I ask the Congress again, pass the seven common-sense measures that I have proposed to help the economy now. Do so without raising taxes and I'll sign it. And then let's get on to the long-term agenda. But stop holding the American economy hostage in a partisan game. (Applause.)

Passing a tax increase is bad enough, but here's what really troubles me: the irresponsibility of Congress on this plan. It's a part of a pattern. It reflects a more serious problem, a deeper, systemic problem that is gnawing at the strength of our nation. It is no wonder that Americans are angry.

Today, looking at the accumulated evidence of several years, it must be said our congressional system is broken. We have a long tradition in this country of pulling together when national need demands that we do so. And over the years, many accomplishments, large and small, have been truly bipartisan.

But Congress today is different. It's more partisan. Its campaigns are financed by special interests. It's grown out of control. It's lost the ability to police itself. And perhaps most importantly, it is no longer accountable to individual American citizens and voters. And this must change.

One party has controlled the House of Representatives for almost four decades. Staff has become institutionalized. In 1950 there were about 2,000 personal staff in Congress. And today, there are almost 12,000 staff for members of Congress themselves, and almost 40,000, if you include the entire Legislative Branch. The number of committees and subcommittees has quadrupled.

And for this, we get a Congress incapable of passing the simple plan that I presented almost two months ago -- a Congress controlled by the Democratic caucus which cannot manage a tiny bank or a tiny post office. (Applause.)

In the 1990 elections, special interest political action committees -- PACs -- gave almost \$117 million to incumbent congressmen and senators. Only about \$15 million were donated to challengers. With this eight-to-one spending advantage, obvious voter discontent was buried in a wave of PAC-financed television advertising. And so nearly every incumbent won.

The time has come for change, because when the system is broken you do have to fix it. And I have proposed to eliminate the PACs which are poisoning our system. And the time has come to eliminate these political action committees in their entirety.

And I propose also to increase accountability. I'm ordering several steps to implement promptly the Supreme Court's Beck decision. (Applause.) No worker should be forced to have money taken out of his or her paycheck to fund politicians that he or she disagrees with. We should apply to Congress the same laws from employment practices, to civil rights, to the Freedom of Information Act, which it imposes on everyone else. (Applause.)

And I believe the time has come to limit the terms of congressmen. (Applause.) The terms of presidents are limited. It's time for the terms of congressmen to be limited.

The bottom line is that we all need a new Congress, one that can and will work with me for constructive change. And in the meantime, I will take additional actions on my own with every legal means at my disposal to keep the economy moving up. And I will do so in spite of the hopelessly tangled congressional web of PACs, perks, privileges partnership and paralysis. (Laughter.)

There is, of course, a serious limit on what a president can do without Congress. But I am determined to do all I can to effect change. And first, I want to underline a fundamental point: Government is too big and it spends too much. (Applause.)

I have already proposed to freeze domestic discretionary spending in federal employment next year. (Applause.) And I've also proposed to curb the growth of mandatory programs without touching Social Security. Mandatory spending -- spending on programs that need no annual congressional action to keep growing -- consumes almost two-thirds of the entire federal budget. Over the next decade, this spending, if left unchecked, will grow by \$2 trillion more than is needed for inflation and new beneficiaries.

Currently, most of these programs grow automatically without congressional review or even a chance for a presidential veto.

My proposal, which is before Congress now, would permit these programs to grow for inflation and new beneficiaries and, where necessary, some amount above that. But we need some ceiling to keep their growth within reasonable bounds. Uncontrollable spending is a major cause of the federal deficit that I'm working to contain and it must be addressed. (Applause.)

Today I am sending to Capitol Hill the first of a series of additional measures to cut federal spending now, this year. I have also directed all agency heads to look for further areas where spending cuts can be made now. The line item rescissions, identified so far in total, will cancel out about \$4 billion in unnecessary spending -- funds for local parking garages, \$100,000 for asparagus yield declines, mink research, prickly pear research. The examples would be funny if the effect weren't so serious. And this kind of wasteful spending destroys public confidence in the integrity of the government. And Americans have every right to be outraged and disgusted. It's their money.

And I will work with the Republicans in the House to bring these items to a vote individually. Forcing the Democratic leadership to allow line-by-line votes on items of pork will bring us a step closer to the accountability and the power that 43 governors have, the line-item veto. (Applause.)

Some argue that the President already has that authority, the line-item veto authority, but our able Attorney General in whom I have full confidence and my trusted White House Counsel backed up by legal opinions from most of the legal scholars, feel that I do not have that line-item veto authority. And this opinion was shared by the Attorney General in the previous administration.

And I ask the American people then to demand that a president be given line-item veto authority legislatively or, if necessary, by changing the Constitution. The line-item veto is essential, and I need it now. (Applause.)

And secondly, I've directed the Vice President to step up the assault on unnecessary regulation and paperwork. Let me give you a progress report that he gave to me -- and he's doing a superb job on this. Though some in Congress oppose regulatory relief, I've already taken specific steps to remove the regulatory roadblocks to growth. We've implemented plans to promote biotechnology, to lower construction costs, help small business, ease the credit crunch, help clean up the air, reduce costs in transportation, and cut through the morass of regulation and agriculture.

And today, we're launching a new public-private partnership to promote research and development by bringing the good ideas from our federal labs into the marketplace. Over the coming months, we will be announcing many more such steps to chop away at needless regulation and paperwork wherever we can. Too much regulation smothers innovation, eliminates jobs, and makes America less competitive.

I realize that these are only modest steps, but they reflect a fundamental attitude. And if the Democratic leadership that runs the status quo Congress will not help us change America, we have to change it without them. And if the Democratic leadership that runs the status quo Congress will not help us reform government, we must reform it without them.

You see, change is nothing to fear. For more than two centuries, America has been a force for change. Our restlessness is legendary. Our energy is boundless. Because of this, today America, even given our economic problems, is the most productive nation on the face of the Earth, with the highest standard of living. And we have only one-twentieth of the world's population. But we produce one-fourth of the world's output. Twice that of Japan; four times that of Germany.

Today America's credibility and prestige in the world, not to mention our strength, have never been greater. But we didn't get where we are by standing still. We got where we are by always striving to do better. And that's why the current paralysis of the Congress, controlled over and over again by that liberal Democratic majority, is so troubling.

It's caused too many Americans, at the exact moment of triumph for American values around the world, to lose confidence. Americans are understandably worried about their future -- not only about the economy right now; all of that is a key problem -- but about the economic competition of the future; about the central question that lies at the heart of the American Dream: Will our children have a better life than we do?

Make no mistake: We will compete and win in the global economy. In the last 10 years we've become more productive. Our exports have more than doubled. Manufacturing productivity has increased. And we are capturing new markets around the world from Europe to Africa to Latin America.

But in order to keep succeeding in this global economic competition we've got to change America in five key ways. We need a strategy that is confident, forward-looking, future-oriented, and we need to be willing to change.

First, we must expand markets for American products. So I will continue to pursue a GATT agreement to open markets further. I will push for a North American Free Trade Agreement to unlock the potential of markets in Mexico and Canada. And I will work for bilateral agreements to knock down barriers to American exports.

To win these markets we must guarantee that America will lead the world in knowledge, in new ideas, in making products of the

highest quality. And that requires specific investments today. I've proposed to invest more in basic R&D -- research and development -- and in key technologies like high-performance computing, new and advanced materials in biotechnology.

Congress should approve these investments. And not only the government must invest more in the future. To maintain our edge by increasing private sector investment, Congress should pass the capital gains tax cut and make the R&D tax credit permanent. (Applause.)

And second, we must prepare our work force to compete, through better education, better training. And I've proposed a set of dramatic reforms in education called America 2000, and a new approach to job training -- Job Training 2000. The idea of America 2000 is simple: to revolutionize American education. And that means creating new kinds of schools with new technology and new ways of learning. It means measuring progress and holding schools accountable for their performance. And it means giving all families, including low- and middle-income families, choice in picking their children's schools. (Applause.)

We've put the resources behind our efforts. Although budget dollars are very tough, education is so important to me that I've increased funding -- funding for education -- by 42 percent just since 1989, and gave it the biggest increase this year. I put in place a new program to help train teachers in math and science, and increased funding for math and science education by over 69 percent.

But more money alone won't do it. We need reform.

And thirdly, we must reform health care. America has provided the best quality health care in the entire world. But we are plagued by two problems: Too many Americans are not covered by health insurance, and health care costs too much. And I have proposed a comprehensive plan to make health care more affordable, more available, more sensible. It guarantees access for affordable health care, affordable health insurance for all Americans. Congress should pass it, and that will help our competitiveness all around the world.

Fourth, we've got to fix our legal system. America is drowning in a sea of litigation. Too many lawsuits means higher prices for consumers and reduced competitiveness for all America. It is estimated that fear of medical practice alone generates up to about \$20 billion per year in increased health costs. This must change. In some cases we should require the loser to pay the winner's legal fees, and that would stop some of these frivolous lawsuits. (Applause.)

You know the problem. When parents won't coach little league teams, when obstetricians won't deliver babies, and when community pools are closed in the summertime, all because the fear of liability, we know that something is wrong. And now is the time for Congress to pass my legislation to fix it.

And fifth, we must tackle each of these challenges without higher taxes or more government spending. (Applause.) America doesn't need bigger government it needs better government. (Applause.) On every one of these issues the Democrats in Congress are standing in the way of reform. They've cut my budgets for R&D and investing in the future and then voted instead for pork.

They've stripped choice and accountability out of the education bill. They are working on a government takeover as a solution to our health care program, to be financed by a massive tax increase. And the special interests have made them afraid of legal reform. Well, it is time for Congress to either lead, to follow, or simply get out of the way. (Applause.)

On every one of these challenges there are two very different ways of looking at the world, one is reformist and the other protects the status quo. And that difference is driven by values.

The special interests and the foot-draggers do not believe in the kind of change that we seek. Change which respects markets more than government dictates; which recognizes fundamental American values and the difference between right and wrong; which rewards excellence and punishes wrong-doing. They do not believe that actions should have consequences.

Well, one set of actions should have consequences. The failure of Congress to move on our program of change means only one thing: it is time for a new Congress. Give others a chance to control the United States Congress. (Applause.)

You give me the right lawmakers and I'll give you the right laws. (Laughter.)

Over the coming weeks I'll be speaking more about these changes and I'll be laying out further specific plans that I have for each. And I ask the American people to compare those plans to the response of the Democratic-led status quo Congress and the do-nothing caucus that has dominated that Democratic Party for too long.

Patrick Henry said, "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past." Well, Patrick Henry was right. Imagine the irony. As the world is beating a path to freedom's door, if we, ourselves, were to turn back now. If we carry the change forward we can have a nation of productive workers and competitive companies, of healthy and secure communities, of schools that are the best in the entire world. And America can remain a nation whose exuberant confidence and commitment to freedom are admired worldwide.

I am ready to build such an America. And because if we can change the world, we can change America.

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

END

4:34 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 12, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

Old Executive Office Building

5:12 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Let me salute those who preceded me. I guess -- has Dick Cheney been over here yet? And Sam Skinner, our Chief of Staff. And then the piece de resistance, our fabulous Secretary of HHS, Lou Sullivan, who is -- I mean that -- he's just doing a superb job for the country. But I'm pleased to be here. I remember last year being unable to show up. I think it was the aftermath of the storm -- of Desert Storm. But I'm glad to be here. Glad to see Bud Burke and Bill Pound and Bob Conner and Terry Anderson is just greeting us.

And last year, I think I owe you an apology for that. That Desert Storm, I think, was a triumph for our country. And I still believe that it holds an enduring lesson for how we in government can get things done. It's different, but there's some lessons that apply.

We saw a challenge. We met it with resolve. The subject, as you will recall, was debated vigorously. And our duty as Americans -- I think the country came together, seeing that our duty demanded nothing less than the action. But when the time came to act, partisanship was laid aside, and we put an end to the squabbling. And the job got done and Kuwait was liberated.

Incidentally, it is my judgment that that action, and I salute the people that participated in it, really restored credibility to the United States all around the world. I see it every single day that I interact with these foreign leaders.

So now I don't have to tell you all who are on the firing lines in your various states that we face a great challenge again today. We're in tough economic times. We owe it to our country to do all in our power to get the economy moving.

I am not gloomy about that, incidentally, Retail sales figures today were good. We've got some fundamentals that are getting in place, such as interest rates and inflation, that could be the forerunners of a very good recovery. But we've got to do something. So I take this getting the economy moving very seriously.

I don't believe there's any one single magic wand that can be waved to accelerate recovery. But I also know that by taking just a few common-sense steps -- and taking them now -- we can stimulate investment, help struggling businesses back to their feet, and put Americans to work.

And what will happen if we can do what I'm about to suggest to you, I think you're going to see a rapid restoration of confidence. One of the great problems we have in this country today is, even though unemployment, for example, is statistically far lower than it was 10 years ago in the recession of '82, the confidence isn't there. And I think that what I'm about to suggest would

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restore confidence if they saw that these things were going to be put into effect.

To free up investment capital, we've asked for a new investment tax credit. It's a tax allowance, really. And what it does is speed up depreciation on the front end and would encourage, therefore, the purchase of new capital equipment, which obviously means jobs. I still favor -- strongly favor -- a cut in the capital gains tax. I think that would create jobs. And I also think that would restore confidence. We remember that both Houses had a majority for that -- Democrats and Republicans supporting it a couple of years ago. We could never get it to a vote.

On the housing industry -- and I'm sure many are familiar with this one -- we've asked for a \$5,000 tax credit and that would be for the first-time homebuyers, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for the first-time homebuyers. The homebuilders have enormously high estimates as to what the credit itself would do for the homebuying business. So I think these would have a stimulative effect.

When I submitted this plan to the Congress, I asked them, as you remember, to put aside the partisanship and try to get some action -- pass it 52 days. We set a deadline -- March 20th.

And so now we're back in the political wars, and they're fixing to send me a package that I simply cannot and will not sign. And there is a massive increase in taxes on that package. And I fully believe that a tax increase here would be a disaster for the economy. I think it would hurt our future competitiveness.

And I think that Congress -- I don't think they will, but they ought not to doubt my resolve on this particular veto, because if they send that tax-and-spend plan down here I have to veto it, send it back. And then possibly in the Senate we can get action because some of the -- I know we've got a bipartisan group here -- but some of the Democrat incentives are very close to what we're suggesting here. And if we can narrow this package down and just go for the incentives, then when we get into all this campaign stuff we can debate whether you need a middle-income tax or a tax break on the rich or a tax increase on the rich, or whatever it is. So I'm going to keep trying very hard to keep the focus on these incentives.

I know that you feel, and I know I feel, that people are tired of the business-as-usual from Washington. And I know it's burdening some of your state capitols, too. In that area, I'm talking -- business-as-usual -- I'm talking about these unfunded mandates.

Every time I meet with the governors or legislators, they say please help us keep Congress from inflicting mandates on us. Give us the flexibility. We might have a better answer in Mobile than they do in Moline, so let us try it our way. And I understand what happens when an unfunded mandate drops in on you from Washington. You've got to find the money, if you want to participate in it, to pay for somebody else's wish list -- either by cutting out programs that you have on the books that you feel might be better or raising taxes at the local level.

In other words, Washington takes the credit and you end up taking the heat. And this message has been drilled home to me over and over again. And I think these mandates are irresponsible and they cut right to the heart of the federal system.

So I've told the Congress if they pass a mandate, they just simply cannot pass the buck. They've got to pay for it without a tax increase.

Then there's other front in our fight to restore federalism. More than a year ago -- and I know you all have been

helpful working with us on this, and we're very grateful -- we proposed a \$15-billion block grant for the states, because I believe that states are the laboratories of democracy. And you need, and your constituents need, the flexibility and the freedom to experiment -- the freedom and flexibility that this grant would permit.

And the conference has been invaluable -- your conference -- in helping get this proposal in shape. We introduced it last year, but we're going to be introducing to Congress soon -- again. And I call on them to give it swift consideration.

The key -- we all know this -- is working together -- Republicans and Democrats, the federal and state governments, the legislative and executive branches.

And I would be the first to confess that I understand the pressures of an election year. But we know what we can do in those moments when we can set partisanship aside. And I think that's what the American people are calling out for right now. And we must not let them down.

So, again, my thanks to you all for your support of this block -- for those of you who are -- supporting this block grant concept, helping us fend off more and more mandates from the Congress, and those who are with us in the idea that what we need for this economy now is something that will in a laser-like way stimulate an economy that is really ready to move and really ready to recover.

I really do thank you. And I hope this hasn't been too inconvenient -- off and on again on the schedule. But I'm off early in the morning. And I just looked forward to having a chance to at least drop in and say hello. So thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

5:21 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 11, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT NIXON LIBRARY DINNER

Four Seasons Hotel
Washington, D.C.

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. President, thank you, sir, for that wonderfully warm introduction. I, like, I think everybody across our country, was once again so impressed when we saw what you did today in outlining foreign policy objectives of this country. And it's a wonderful privilege for me to be introduced by you.

If you will excuse me a little reminiscence, why, in 1966 -- '64, I ran with a spectacular lack of success for the United States Senate. In 1966, I started off to run for the Congress in Houston -- Harris County. And it was then Richard Nixon, former Vice President, President-to-be, who came down there to kick off my little campaign. And I thought I was right on top of the world, and what he did in endorsing and supporting me and many others like me that year resulted in our picking up some 49 seats, I think it was, in the Congress, and propelling me into a life that has been full and fascinating -- sometimes frustrating -- but always rewarding. And I am very, very grateful to him then; I was grateful to him when I served -- while he was President, while I was head of the Republican National Committee.

And I value his advice today. I get it. I appreciate it. And I'm very grateful to him for his continued leadership in this area that is so vital to the United States of America.

So, Mr. President, my sincere thanks. And it's a great privilege to be here tonight. (Applause.)

And, of course, I want to thank our friend, all of our friend, Jim Schlesinger, for his leadership on this; and Walter and Lee Annenberg for their fantastic support; of course, Julie and David Eisenhower over there -- I agree with everything Jim Schlesinger said about Julie, first-class and wonderful. To Gavin and Annetta Herbert and our friend, George Argyrous from California; John Taylor; Brian -- over here; distinguished guests all; ladies and gentlemen. It is a pleasure to be here among friends and to renew old ties.

A writer once said of Richard Nixon, his life "somehow was central to the experience of being an American in the second half of this century." I am proud tonight to salute a President who made a difference -- not because he wished it, but because he willed it.

As our 37th President, he placed crime and drugs on the national agenda; he created a pioneering cancer initiative; he ended the draft; and he created the EPA. And we've been fighting over the spotted owl ever since he created the EPA. But nevertheless -- (laughter.)

As I said when his library opened, Richard Nixon will be remembered for another reason: dedicating his life to the noblest cause offered any President -- the cause of peace among nations -- a cause told in his books -- now, nine of them -- each written out in long-hand on those famous yellow pages -- yellow legal pads.

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So I could not be more pleased -- and I know I speak for Barbara on this, both of us -- to be here this evening, and I'm pleased to be able to speak before this gathering devoted to exploring "America's Role in the Emerging World." The subject could not be more timely. The auspices couldn't be more appropriate. The Richard Nixon Library -- and I was privileged to be there at the opening -- stands as a monument to a President and to an administration devoted to an active, thoughtful and, above all, realistic approach to the world.

The challenge faced by President Nixon could hardly have been more daunting: How to maintain domestic support for a foreign policy mandated by a growing Soviet threat at a time that an overburdened America was fighting an unpopular war in Vietnam. What emerged -- the policies of detente and the doctrine that bears the name of the 37th President -- provided a balance between confrontation and cooperation.

President Nixon managed this and more, extricating us from a war, negotiating the first comprehensive U.S.-Soviet arms control agreement, opening up relations with China, mediating disengagement pacts in the Middle East -- all while preserving a consensus at home favoring continued engagement in world affairs.

To be sure, today's challenge is fundamentally different. Yet I think we'd all agree it does bear some resemblance. Once again we've got to find a way to square the responsibilities of world leadership with the requirements of domestic renewal. What we must do is find a way to maintain popular support for an active foreign policy and a strong defense in the absence of an overriding single external threat to our nation's security and in the face of severe budgetary problems. In this post-Cold War world, ours is the wonderful, yet no less real or difficult challenge really of coping with success.

This challenge is by no means unprecedented. Think back to the era after World War I or the years in the immediate wake of World War II. In both instances, the American people were anxious to bring their victorious troops home, to focus their energies on making the American dream a reality.

Perhaps more instructive, though, are the differences between our reactions following this century's two great wars. After World War I, the United States retreated behind its oceans. We refused to support the League of Nations. We allowed our military forces to shrink and grow obsolete. We helped international trade plummet, the victim of beggar-thy-neighbor protectionism. And we stood by and watched as Germany's struggling democracy, the Weimar Republic, failed under the weight of reparations, protectionism and depression, and gave way to the horror that we all know as the Third Reich.

Likewise, our initial reaction to victory in World War II showed little learning. But galvanized by an emerging communist threat spearheaded by an imperialist Soviet Union, the United States acted. NATO, the IMF, the World Bank, the Marshall Plan -- these and other institutions prove that Americans grasped the nature of the challenge and the need to respond. Our military was modernized, free trade nourished, U.S. support for former adversaries Germany and Japan made generous. It was fitting that Dean Acheson titled his memoirs "Present at the Creation", for these years were truly creative.

The result, as they say, is history. We kept the peace. We won the Cold War. Democracy is on the march. Now, for the third time this century, we've emerged on the winning side of a war -- the Cold War -- involving the great powers. And so the question before

us is the same: We have won the war, but are we prepared to secure the peace?

That is the challenge that we must face. Yet already, there are voices across the political spectrum calling -- in some cases, shouting -- for America to "come home, gut defense, spend the peace dividend, shut out foreign goods, slash foreign aid."

You all know the slogans. You all know the so-called solutions: Protectionism. Isolationism. But now we have the obligation, the responsibility to our children, to reject the false answers of isolation and protection, to heed history's lessons. Turning our back on the world is simply no answer. I don't care how difficult our economic problems are at home. (Applause.) To the contrary, the futures of the United States and the world are inextricably linked.

Just why this is so could not be more clear. Yesterday we saw conflict, and today, yes, the world is a safer place. Yes, the Soviet Union, aggressive, looking outward, that we feared is no longer. But the successor republics are still struggling to establish themselves as democracies, still struggling to make the transition to capitalism. We invested so much to win the Cold War. We must invest what is necessary to win the peace. If we fail, we will create new and profound problems for our security and that of Europe and Asia. If we succeed, we strengthen democracy, we build new market economies -- and in the process, we create huge new markets for America. We must support reform, not only in Russia, but throughout the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

As a former President, Richard Nixon is a prolific author. As President, he wrote a chapter that previewed the New World Order. Today we are building on RN's roots planted in Tel Aviv and Cairo and Moscow and Beijing. (Applause.) Look at the lands of the former Soviet Union, reaching out toward Western ways. Look at the fledgling democracies here in our own hemisphere. You talk about an exciting story -- look what's happening south of the Rio Grande. All moving towards democracy except one. Look at Cambodia and its neighbors in Southeast Asia, yearning for an end to decades of violence. Or at the historic peace process in the Middle East -- one that holds out the hope of reconciling Israel and her Arab neighbors. Long way to go, but they're talking. Look at a U.N. that may at long last be in a position to fulfill the vision of its founders.

Look at Africa, the changes in South Africa. Look at the exciting changes in Angola, or what happened in Zambia. The success of each depends on U.S. support and leadership. Look, too, at the threats that know no boundaries: these insidious threats like drugs and terrorism and disease and pollution -- and above all, the one that concerns me perhaps the most, the spread of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them. They, too, will yield only to an America that is vigilant and that is strong.

In the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda there's a -- I hope all of you have seen it. If you haven't, you ought to do that. There's a world leaders room, a room of giants who provided such leadership -- Churchill and Chou En-Lai and Charles deGaulle. President Nixon not only knew the greatest statesmen of the 20th century, he became one of them -- like them, judged by disasters averted and dreams achieved.

A former aide once told of how President Nixon asked about a foreign policy speech. The aide shook his head. "Frankly," he said, "it's not going to set the world on fire." President Nixon shook his head. "That's the whole object of our foreign policy," he said almost to himself, "not to set the world on fire." (Laughter.)

Yes, carrying out a leadership role in determining the course of the emerging world is going to cost money. But like any insurance policy, the premium is modest compared to the potential cost of living in a warring and hostile world. Many in Congress today, perhaps for understandable reasons, domestic policy considerations, are calling for a peace dividend. They would have us slash defense spending far below the reduced levels that we have calculated would be prudent. This must be resisted. The United States must remain ready and able to keep the peace; a well-trained, well-equipped military cannot simply be created overnight if and when the need arises. Anyone who has ever gone to war knows that peace is its own dividend.

Those who would have us do less ignore the intimate interrelationship between overseas developments and those here at home. If we had not resisted aggression in the Gulf a year ago, if we had not liberated Kuwait and defeated Iraq's invading army, we would now be facing the economic consequences not of a mild recession, but of a deep depression brought on by Saddam Hussein's control over the majority of the world's oil. And I am absolutely certain -- I expect we could get a good lively debate in this room of enormously intellectual people -- but I am absolutely certain in my mind that if we had not moved against Saddam, he would be in Saudi Arabia today. The coalition would have fallen apart, he would be in Saudi Arabia, and we would be facing agony like we've never faced before in the history of our country.

It is a pipedream to believe that we can somehow insulate our society or our economy or our lives from the world beyond our borders. (Applause.) This is not meant to suggest that we should not do more here at home. Of course, we should. But foreign policy, too, is a powerful determinant of the quality of life here at home.

Isolationism is not the only temptation we need to avoid. Protectionism is another siren song which will be difficult to resist. There are, indeed, many examples of unfair trade practices where U.S. firms get shut out of foreign government markets owing to trade barriers of one sort or another or owing to foreign government subsidies. But the way to bring down barriers abroad is not to raise them at home. In trade wars there are no winners, only losers.

Export growth is a proven economic engine. Every billion dollars -- we estimate every billion dollars in manufactured exports creates 20,000 jobs for Americans. And we should have no doubts about the ability of our workers and farmers to thrive in a competitive world. Our goal must be to increase, not restrict trade. Opting out, be it under the banner of protection or isolation, is nothing more than a recipe for weakness, and ultimately, for disaster. And that's why I am so determined to do all I can to bring to -- to successfully conclude the Uruguay Round, GATT, and to get a fair trade agreement with Mexico, the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada. It is important to us; it creates jobs in the United States. (Applause.)

Now, if I can choose a theme for you to take away from what I have to say tonight, it is this: There is no distinction between how we fare abroad and how we live at home. Foreign and domestic policy are but two sides of the same coin. True, we will not be able to lead abroad if we are not united and strong at home. But it is no less true that we will be unable to build the society we seek here at home in a world where military and economic warfare is the norm.

Ladies and gentlemen, the responsibility for supporting an active foreign policy is one for every American. But this task, in some ways, falls especially upon those in this room tonight. We are entering a world that promises to be more rather than less complicated -- I think thought when we were facing an imperial Soviet communism, that that was the most complicated of times. I don't see

it that way -- more rather than less difficult to lead in this world. And again you have a special responsibility to help show the way, all of you

Mr. President, there have been literally millions of words written about you. As President Reagan said, some even have been true. (Laughter.) But let me close with words that you used 33 years ago in the kitchen in Moscow in that famous meeting with Khrushchev -- former Premier Khrushchev.

You describe the scene memorably in your last book, *Seize the Moment*. When Khrushchev bragged that, "Your grandchildren will live under communism," you responded that his grandchildren would live in freedom. He was wrong, but at the time you weren't sure you were right. Today, we know you were -- just as you were right in helping build a safer, more peaceful world.

As we look toward the future, the only thing that is certain is that it will bring a new world. Our task -- our opportunity -- is to make it orderly, to build a new world order of peace, democracy and prosperity. Let's dedicate ourselves to making the most of this precious opportunity, of this privilege.

Thank you all very much. Mr. President, thank you, sir. It's a joy being with you. And may God bless the United States. (Applause.)

END

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Memphis, Tennessee)

For Immediate Release

March 5, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO FEDERAL EXPRESS EMPLOYEES
AND BUSH-QUAYLE SUPPORTERS

Memphis International Airport
Memphis, Tennessee

2:35 P.M. CST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so very much. Thank you so much for that enthusiastic welcome. And thank you to my friend, Howard Baker, one of the great leaders in the United States Senate in all of its history.

Thank you for the introduction, Howard. And may I salute Congressman Don Sundquist who has been at my side in the political wars -- a good friend, a great congressman. (Applause.) And I'm delighted to be here at Federal Express. (Applause.) A 1990 Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award winner -- a national winner. (Applause.)

My staff told me they weren't sure they could fit this stop in our schedule. But when I said it was a "Fred said," I knew we had to do it -- and fast. (Applause.) Fred, thank you.

You know, Fred Smith has always been very, very generous. And Fred, it's good to know that if Air Force One ever has a problem, I can always ride in the jump seat. And I hope I don't forget the cookies. And you know what that means. (Applause.)

The people of Memphis -- indeed, all Americans -- face a momentous decision this year. And I would never presume to tell you how to vote, it must be between you and your conscience: Which Elvis should be on the postage stamp? I noticed the sign. (Applause.)

And, really, it is a delight to be in this state, because the people of Tennessee believe in big things and we agree on the values that are closest to our hearts. And I'm talking about job security, I'm talking about family, I'm talking about world peace for us and our children, and for our families for generations to come. (Applause.)

I'm here today because the people in Memphis, as well as people at Federal Express, embody the values that have made America number one in the world. And I know that with leaders like you, America will stay number one. Don't listen to the gloom and doom pessimists on that evening news every night. (Applause.) You don't shrink from a challenge, whether in the marketplace or in the world at large. Think back to a year ago. Think back to Operation Desert Storm. America faced a great challenge then, and Tennessee met it proudly. More than 6,000 Tennesseans served their country as Reservists of the National Guard. And Fed Ex flew more missions than any other single civilian carrier. (Applause.) And believe me, that is not a contribution that America will ever forget. Thank you all very much, and all of you that helped make that possible.

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What makes this city, this state and this company so successful? It's not hard to figure out. Look closely at what happens right here at Federal Express. You seek out new technologies, you make them work, you see job training not as a one-shot deal, but as an ongoing process. And you set high standards, constantly asking more of yourselves and your coworkers, and you're satisfied with nothing short of excellence. Innovation -- that's what being competitive is all about. (Applause.)

The key to success, to our success as a nation is competitiveness. And for some, that word, "competitiveness" is just this year's political buzzword. Here in Memphis it's a reality. Competitiveness is your key to leadership. And companies like this one here, Fed Ex, understand a central truth about America: If we are to succeed economically at home we must lead economically abroad. And that's what you are doing. (Applause.)

And here at Fed Ex that's just common sense. More than 1.5 million packages pass through here everyday en route to all parts of the globe. And Memphis, therefore, is already America's distribution center, and now you're becoming the world's. And that means economic opportunity and it means jobs for the American people. (Applause.)

You know, in this political year, this political year some people can't seem to understand that. They see the challenges of a global economy and they say let's draw the blinds, bolt the doors, maybe the world will go away. And they push protectionism, an ugly word that really means surrender. Don't be fooled by the tough talk and the patriotic political bluster out there -- protectionism comes from fear. Fear that Americans can't compete, fear that Americans have no ideas and no foresight, fear that America can no longer lead. And let those skeptics come to Memphis, Tennessee -- (applause) -- and let them come to Federal Express and see what it really is about. (Applause.) And maybe then they'll understand what you and I already know, Americans here and across our country can outthink, outperform, outproduce anybody in the world. (Applause.)

Never in this country's history have Americans turned their back on a challenge. And we don't run and hide. We compete. As long as I am President, we will continue to compete and we will continue to compete, and I don't believe in protectionism and I don't believe in isolationism. (Applause.) Yes, we've got a lot of work to do to keep America on top. And, of course, you know and I know that our biggest challenge, my first priority, is to get this economy moving, to create and preserve American jobs.

And in my State of the Union Address in January I laid out a two-part plan for the economic recovery. First, a short-term plan to strengthen the economy right now. And then, second, a longer-term plan to keep America growing strong for years to come. And my plan gets business moving again, hiring again. It gets the housing market back on its feet with a \$5,000 tax credit for that first-time homebuyer. Give those young families a chance to own their own home -- (applause) -- common-sense proposals to get people buying homes and then building homes.

Fortunately, Congress can't tie my hands on everything. I've been able to take some steps on my own. For example, I put a 90-day freeze on new government regulations so that all major Cabinet departments and agencies can conduct a top-to-bottom review. And I've given them some advice: Wherever possible, they must speed up any regulations that encourage economic growth and scrap regulations that restrict economic growth in this country. (Applause.)

Overregulation robs the inventiveness and risk-taking the economy needs to grow. And you all understand that better than anybody. For the first year, Fed Ex ran its business with 32 small planes. Any further expansion was inhibited by cargo -- air cargo -- regulations. And deregulation allowed Fed Ex to buy more planes, larger planes, for transport. And, literally, Federal

Express took off when the regulatory burden was lifted from their backs. (Applause.)

And so we're going to energize our economy nationally the same way. The days of overregulation are just that -- they are over. (Applause.)

And also there's another thing on the minds of the people in this great area, and that means reforming our legal system. When parents won't coach Little League for fear of being slapped with a liability lawsuit, and doctors stop delivering babies for fear of a malpractice suit, there is something wrong. (Applause.) And that's why I've sent a bill to the Congress, supported by Don Sundquist, to stop the frivolous lawsuits that drain our wallets and tear apart our society. (Applause.)

And here's the bottom line: America won't find its way out of this mess until we spend more time helping each other than we do suing each other. (Applause.)

We've got to also reform our health care system. Anyone who's had even a check-up knows that medical costs are going right through the roof. And I believe all Americans deserve quality health care. However, too many families go without health care coverage. And our plan focuses on opening up access to health care to all Americans, rich or poor. And some want to take us down the road of nationalized health care, and I think you and I both know that nationalized health care where government makes all the decisions would be a national disaster. (Applause.)

And so I say to the Congress, the Congress of the United States, the American people need your help and now is not the time for the government to play doctor. Give us an improved health care program for this country. (Applause.)

I'd like them to do it now. But, see, I know Congress can be a little slow doing things. (Laughter.) That's like the guy that takes an hour and a half to watch 60 Minutes. (Laughter.) So I gave them a deadline, March 20th, to enact this short-term plan. And unfortunately for the American people the Democrats, the liberals that control the Congress, had other ideas. Last week they passed a plan of their own. And here's what it does: In exchange for a two-bit tax cut, literally about 25 cents a day per taxpayer, they will raise another \$100 billion in taxes. And they call that \$100 billion new revenues. And I have another word for it: your money. (Laughter and applause.)

No matter how the Democrats try to dress it up, any economist can tell you the last thing we need right now is a \$100 billion tax hike. So if the Democrats in Congress want to send that bill to me, I've got a message for them. I will veto it, absolutely, positively, overnight. (Applause.)

No, the American people have had enough of the old tax and spend, and they want to get our economy back on track. And every day each one of you hears Federal Express airplanes flying overhead. To some people that might sound like noise, but it is music to my ears. It is the sound of an economy on the move, an economy that is worldwide. (Applause.) It is the sound of American ingenuity taking off.

Since I took office it has been my responsibility to work for what is right for America. And I often go back, I expect we all do as families, and I wish Barbara Bush were with me to see this marvelous crowd today. (Applause.) We often go back to the simple ideal that -- in our case, that my parents taught me: Try your hardest, be honest, do your best. And let me tell you something: I'm not finished yet. I want your support for four more years to finish this job. And I say to the people of Tennessee -- (applause)

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-- together, we're going to make a change -- a change that for once Congress will believe in you and give you values you believe in, give those values a real chance to work. Thank you for your hard work, thank you all for this enthusiastic welcome and your continued support, and may God bless the greatest, freest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you so much. (Applause.)

END

3:50 P.M. CST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Chicago, Illinois)

For Immediate Release

March 3, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE 50TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

The Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel
Chicago, Illinois

11:57 A.M. CST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you for that welcome. And to Dr. Johnson, Dr. Billy Melvin, Don Argue, Dave Rambo, Bob Dugan, my sincere thanks, not just to you all, to everyone up here, but to all of you for that very warm welcome.

And I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note -- to thank you for the help that you've given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work that your team in Washington has been doing, although they've been of great help to our administration advancing the values we share. Nor am I thinking only of the wonderful work you do in world relief and in helping people around this world, which is superb work. But my thanks are really more personal than that, and Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers.

As I said many times before, prayer always has been important in our lives, and without it, I really am convinced, more and more convinced, that no man -- or no woman, eventually -- who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out their duties without prayer. I think of Lincoln's famous remark: "I've been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

The intercessory prayers that so many Americans make on behalf of the President of the United States -- in this instance, on behalf of me, and also of my family -- they inspire us and they give us strength. And I just wanted you to know that -- and Barbara and I are very, very grateful to you.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to speak to this most prestigious meeting, to speak with you today on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme -- "Forward in Faith" -- and that says as much about your movement, much about what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point our country toward the future, and with the diligence and hard work and confidence that only a firm faith can provide. In so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the world, and on the values -- on the values so close to home. I'm talking about jobs, obviously; about family; about world peace, for ourselves, and I guess even more important, for our kids, for the generations coming along.

And we agree that we must speak out against racial bigotry and against anti-Semitism. And as I stressed in my State of the Union address, it's especially critical in these days of economic difficulty to point out that racial bigotry and anti-Semitism simply have no place in America. (Applause.)

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You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools where your children can receive the finest possible education, to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God. And I believe that means that you are entitled to choose your children's schools. (Applause.)

You want a government that understands the limited role that it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on Earth. You understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness, but from clarity of purpose and from strength. The last time a President came before you, I note that it is almost eight years to the day, our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't simply some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man.

On one side was a system dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no government can deny. (Applause.)

And now, eight years later, we can say confidently, Americans won the Cold War. We won it by standing for what's right. Tonight our children and grandchildren -- and I take great joy in this -- tonight our children and our grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In our prayers we asked for God's help. I know our family did, and I expect all of you did. We asked for God's help. And now in this shining outcome, in this magnificent triumph of good over evil, we should thank God. We should give thanks. (Applause.)

By the way, I notice from your Washington newsletter that recently even Time Magazine called the old Soviet Union an evil empire. Now they tell us. (Laughter.) I think you will recall only a few years ago when -- many of you know this -- about the time when Bill Graham went to the Soviet Union. And he came back and told a lot of people, told us of the people's hunger for religion. And some did not believe him then. Nobody here doubted that. But some across our country simply could not believe that. But now, no one doubts him. I know evangelicals understood this all along.

Our victory in the Cold War came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you -- many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the word of God with people who longed for it. And through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who were fleeing oppression. Many evangelicals risked their lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by communism's demise is filled by faith. You and I both know there is more to do in the cause of religious freedom, and you have my full support in that effort. (Applause.) Rest assured: Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for what you have done.

Americans are the most religious people on Earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. As Jefferson put it: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence and in our Constitution. And it's no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the opening clause of that amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. (Applause.) This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against religious belief itself. Some people seem to believe that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion. Well, I believe they're just plain wrong. (Applause.)

Our government was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion -- of course; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. And it must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief. (Applause.) That is the challenge that our administration has undertaken. To be succinct -- it is my conviction that children have a right to voluntary prayer in the public schools. (Applause.)

And we must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago, for example, we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care legislation. But with the invaluable help of your group and of other pro-family organizations, we kept choice of child care out of the hands of the government bureaucrats and kept it where it belongs -- in the hands of the parents. (Applause.)

And you remember the fight, but we were determined to help families get the kind of child care they want, and that included church-based care. And that's the way the law is now, and that's the way it should be. (Applause.)

And we will continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to literally revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive. And as I've said many times, that must include religious-based schools. (Applause.)

For many years Americans saw another disturbing trend. Judges, legislating from the bench, steadily expanded the power of government over the lives of ordinary Americans. Today, I am happy to report to you that that trend is over. Over the past three years I have appointed more than 160 judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents; judges who punish criminals, not honest cops out trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court since I've been President -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas. (Applause.)

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. And I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and welfare

dependency to crime and moral breakdown -- spring from the deterioration of the American family. (Applause.)

And too often overweening government has aided the tragedy. Recently I announced a new commission to isolate the causes of the family's decline. And I did that after meeting with Democratic mayors and Republican mayors from the National League of Cities -- some from big cities, some from small -- all saying what I've just said. The fundamental problem is the decline of the family when you look at these urban problems. I think you'll agree that I found the right man to lead the commission: your Layman of the Year last year, Governor John Ashcroft of the state of Missouri. (Applause.) John knows the importance that we place on strengthening -- on strengthening the families. Families must come first in America.

We must always guard against laws that weaken the family, weaken traditional values. And at the same time, we can take positive steps to strengthen them. Here's an example that will begin to address the real costs of child-rearing: I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 per child, and I want the Congress to do it now.

We're also waging war against the forces that would tear the family apart. In 1990 alone, our agents from the FBI and Customs and Postal Inspection Service won 245 convictions against the smut merchants who deal in child pornography. These creatures have been put on notice: There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of children. (Applause.)

Faith, family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on Earth. And to these values we must add the infinitely precious value of life itself. Let me be clear: I support the right to life. (Applause.)

Six times the Congress has sent me legislation permitting federal funding of abortion, and six times I've told them no and vetoed these bills. (Applause.) Now we've got another fight. The Democratic Congress has opened up yet another front in this battle. Tomorrow, they will begin hearings on new legislation, and they call it the "freedom of choice act." And it would impose on all 50 states an unprecedented regime of abortion on demand going well beyond even Roe versus Wade. It would block many state laws requiring that parents be told about abortions being performed on their young daughters -- even though the Supreme Court has upheld such laws five times. It would override state laws restricting sex-selection abortions. And it would severely limit the state's ability to impose meaningful restrictions on abortions performed in the eighth or even the ninth month of pregnancy. This is not right. And it will not become law as long as I am President of the United States of America. (Applause.)

Lincoln once said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." (Applause.) As President I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being coming to the aid of another. And I'm always reminded of a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting the values of faith and family and life, we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country forward in faith, and -- remember -- one nation under God.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your wonderful work. And thank you for having me with you. (Applause.)

END

12:18 P.M. CST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 14, 1992

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE PRESIDENT

Arborview
Riverside Development Construction Site
Belcamp, Maryland

2:35 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Let me just make a quick statement here. Today many families all across America share the same hope of owning their own home. But hard times have put a hold on the dream. And to these young families I made a pledge, and that is that we will help you get your dream within reach.

And I submitted to Congress an action plan to help the economy, not hurt the taxpayer. And I sent this plan to the House and the Senate and brought it along -- great big thing here. It includes a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and a tax break for middle class families. It's all there.

And we do not need to raise taxes in order to get this economy moving again. We need to cut the taxes and cut spending. And I've asked Congress for nothing flashy, just common sense -- good common sense. And as I told these people I've been working with -- construction workers and would-be homebuyers -- I want that \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for the purchase of a first home. I want a modification in the tax rules that currently discourage real estate investors -- it's known as the passive loss rules. And furthermore, I want a cut in the capital gains tax to boost real estate values and heat up the housing market, especially with interest rates at such low levels.

And I told them that my plan will work. They're the experts here, but some representatives of the National Association of Homebuilders are with us today also. And that organization -- and I'll let them speak for themselves, but that organization estimates that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, we will create 415,000 new construction industry jobs and generate \$20 billion in new economic activity. These figures from the experts. (Applause.)

And so I would ask you to ask one expert right here standing with me here, John Colvin, and he tells me that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, he expects to add an additional 90 homes to the 256 he already plans to sell and build in 1992. Now, that's 355 new homes here at Arborview, homes within reach of the middle class buyers.

Two days after the State of the Union I sent a plan to Congress to get our economy moving this spring. Now, let me tell you what happened to the plan this week.

Wednesday, the majority, the Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee in the House voted against my plan twice. And just yesterday in a closed meeting the Democrats surfaced a scheme that raises taxes and, more importantly for you, everyone here, I think kills my plan to help these first-time homebuyers.

MORE

Many firms in the housing industry have reached the make-or-break point. And so I've set a deadline for the Congress to act -- you heard it in the State of the Union -- March 20th, 35 days from today. Make a note of that date.

But remember, anyone who wants to buy a home like this, under my plan, would get a \$5,000 tax credit. And under the Democrats' current package, they would get zero.

And I've asked these good people here today to tell Congress not to send me a package that I have to veto on carrying a tax increase. The Democrats refuse to pass my plan out of the committee and instead their considering a package that would raise these taxes. And because it's not paid for, it would trigger cuts in the Medicare benefits.

The American people, I really believe, want action. And they will not stand for this maneuver there in the committee. I'm hoping the whole House of Representatives, Helen, will do a better job on this -- and Wayne, our other Congressman with me here today -- they need to pass this plan and to quit playing kind of partisan, election-year politics.

So I'm glad to take this opportunity to encourage the Congress to move. And on this bill, this rifle-shot approach that we have, it can be done almost overnight. It literally -- it is not that complicated. There are seven stimulative tax provisions in here, and it will get the job done. It will really move this economy.

And so I hope that everybody, regardless of political affiliation, will weigh in with the Congress and help us get this done.

So that is it. And thank you all very, very much.
(Applause.)

Everybody read this and I'm going to give you a quiz now on this. (Laughter.)

Q Mr. President, the Democrats say your March 20 plan is too front-end-loaded for the rich.

THE PRESIDENT: That doesn't look like it to me -- a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homeowner -- that doesn't seem to me to be helping the rich. It seems to me to be helping people own a home. It seems to me to be stimulating the housing business.

So that's the charge, I understand, but I wish they'd get out here and talk to some people that are working in these buildings and maybe talk to some that aspire to own a home. You know, there's plenty of time for politics later on, after March 20th. We ought to pass this one. Ask the head of the homebuilders, Jay down here. I mean, this is their business, and they'll tell you that that alone will have an enormously stimulative effect.

So I'm asking them to say, let's set aside the politics as usual, get this part done, and then I'll go to battle stations with them on how I think the rest of this program should be enacted. But it's too urgent now. The economy's getting ready to move. Interest rates are down. Inflation is down. Everything's not all gloomy. But what it needs is a stimulative push right now. And it's good for the homebuyer; it's good for the homebuilder. It's good for the community.

Each one of these jobs, I was told out here, each one of these houses stimulates a lot of other jobs, whether it's in

landscaping business or finishing these units out, or all kinds of things -- highway construction, whatever it might be.

So that's what I would say.

Q Mr. President, what's wrong with a tax increase on the wealthy as part of that?

THE PRESIDENT: We don't need any tax increases. What we need to do is stimulate the economy. And every time they aim at the wealthy, you hit these guys. That's just the way it works. And so I don't think that -- why divide, kind of keep trying to divide America class against class? Why not get on with stimulating this economy so everybody's going to have a piece of a bigger pie? (Applause.) That's the way I look at it.

Q Are you trying to compromise with them, though, Mr. President, to sit down and --

THE PRESIDENT: I don't want to compromise. I want them to pass this, and then we'll get into a negotiation on this big baby here. And there's a lot of things in there that are very important. I'm all for the provision on the child care credit, for example. But what I think is most important to the country now is to stimulate the economy where it will begin to move forward on jobs.

This will restore confidence. One of the problems we've had in this economy is the lack of confidence. And a couple of guys standing over here near this truck said, well, I'm beginning to get a little better feel for it. This will give it a boost. And I really think that's the approach we ought to take -- get this done and then let's have the debate wherever it may be, on taxing the rich, or taxing somebody else.

Marlin predicted yesterday to you all, they're going to come out with a tax increase. It was 12 hours later that I read in the paper a great big bill that was going to do just exactly that. And so I'm just going to keep urging and trying to get the support of the American people to go for this stimulative package. I really think that's what's needed.

Q Mr. President, did you just say that you're open to negotiating a tax increase once --

THE PRESIDENT: No. No. I'm glad you put that -- I said I'm glad to be talking about this whole package later on. But not negotiating a tax increase. Thank you for letting me clear that up.

Q But you appeared to leave the door open, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me close it right here -- wham. (Laughter.) We don't need it. (Applause.)

Thank you. Thank you, Jim. No, I'm glad he raised it because sometimes they think I'm a little less than clear in what I say.

Q Do you agree with Marlin's characterization of the Democrats on the tax and Ways and Means Committee as weasels?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I thought -- I can't remember exactly what he -- I thought it was eloquent, but I don't want to agree with him until I go back and review exactly what he said.

Q Are they weasels?

Q Are you confirmed that a tax cut now will do long-term damage to the economy?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't think so. I think this kind of stimulative effect, which is paid for under our plan, is a good thing to do. And I also think that if the economy does what I think it will when stimulated, it will just create more and more jobs, and that, of course, would mean more and more revenues.

Q James Cheek sees a hostile environment following the dismissal of Robert Goodwin who heads your office, your initiative on black colleges and universities. Do you know why Robert Goodman was fired?

THE PRESIDENT: No, but I certainly have a lot of respect for Dr. Cheek and would like to talk to him about that. But I don't.

Q Mr. President, Pat Buchanan says your proposal is a cynical betrayal of the middle class.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I'd vowed to try to get through this election without responding to him, and I think I've got a good chance because the election is Tuesday up there. And I'm going to keep on doing that, keep my sights focused on what's going to help this economy, country; what's going to help, in this instance, stimulate the housing industry. And then I'll be prepared to engage. But this is too important. And I really mean it.

So I've been able to absorb these shots in New Hampshire -- from all sides. It's not just him. They're all having a field day. But what I'm trying to do is get the country moving, and then I'll come out with my dukes up and ready to do battle. But this is too important to get it caught up in charge and countercharge; it really is.

And I'm a competitor and I don't like being the javelin catcher, but I really believe this. I really believe that if we can somehow -- if I can preserve the climate in which to get this done, that's the best politics and it's the best -- I know it's the best approach for our country. So I'm going to stay with this.

Q How competitive are you going to be in New Hampshire, Mr. President?

MR. FITZWATER: Final question, please.

THE PRESIDENT: How what?

Q How competitive will you be in New Hampshire? How will you do?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think I've got a good chance to win. Is that what you mean? (Laughter.)

Q Well, how well do you think you'll do? Will Pat Buchanan get 42 percent of the vote?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I'm going to stay out of the prediction business. A guy asked me the other day, he said, what do you have to have to win? I said, help me will you; what does it take to win the Super Bowl, I can't remember? The guy said, one point -- thank you very much, thank you very much. (Laughter.)

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

2:47 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Atlanta, Georgia)

For Immediate Release

January 17, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT JOB TRAINING 2000 CEREMONY

Jordan Hall
Morris Brown College
Atlanta, Georgia

11:52 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say it's been a joy to be back in Atlanta. I was privileged to be over at the Martin Luther King Center, pay fitting and appropriate tribute to that great leader, and now have an opportunity to be here.

And I want to single out again to those who weren't over there, Secretary Sullivan who -- Dr. Sullivan is the Secretary of HHS, the largest department in the federal government and doing a superb job. And for you kids, he's from Morehouse Medical right here and went to Morehouse. So we've got an Atlanta man running this enormous part of the federal government and doing a superb job at it.

I was so pleased to have been greeted by the Mayor, who I don't think is here right now and the Governor, both of whom gave me a warm welcome -- one to Georgia, and one to Atlanta.

I want to salute the Private Industry Council of Atlanta members who have taken the time to be with us. Pleased to be joined by Alvin Darden, members of this effective CATALYST team now on their coffee break. (Laughter.) And I've come here to Morris Brown College in the center -- the Atlanta University center -- to see this wonderful work in progress and to announce a pioneering new approach to job training, a program that I call Job Training 2000.

Programs like the CATALYST Project highlight just how critical job training is to the American economy, to American competitiveness, and, yes, to the American Dream.

As a nation, America's ability to prosper in the century coming up rests on our collective capacity to learn new skills and test the limits of our potential. On an individual level, what we learn defines who we are. No one -- young, old or in between -- can hope to reach their dreams without sharpening their skills and mastering the tools of thought.

And that's the idea behind our overall national education strategy -- America 2000. And it's the impulse behind the initiative that I'm announcing today -- Job Training 2000.

Job training must be more than merely make-work. It's got to suit the needs of the workplace and the marketplace. And the private sector will always bear primary responsibility for training the workers it needs to get the jobs done -- the unions here taking a very active and critical role in all of this. But government, at all level, can and must play a role -- to use a word that's well-known, as catalysts in this process.

And we are, right now, the federal government's commitment to worker training spans more than 60 programs, seven federal agencies, resources totaling some \$18 billion a year.

MORE

Well, we've got to make certain that these funds are spent to maximum effect, and that's where Job Training 2000 comes in. It's the product of hard work of our Vice President and of Secretary of Labor Lynn Martin, of our Education Secretary -- all these working together trying to express a commitment to this country's future.

Job Training 2000 rests on four cornerstones. First, the creation of a 21st century training system. Job training 2000 creates a one-stop shopping center for job training, coordinated by private industry councils all across the country. It will move us away from the heavy hand of a bureaucratic overkill to a system that allows greater freedom for the private sector and local governments to shape programs that work. I've been asking that question -- does this work? And each person I've asked said this one works. It's effective.

Second, this program will help ease the transition from welfare to work, from dependence to independence. Under Job Training 2000, we'll dedicate more than \$20 million to demonstration projects to place welfare recipients in permanent jobs. And then we'll enlist market forces to break the welfare dependency. A substantial portion of the money government saves as each new worker leaves welfare behind will be shared with the company that helped that person get a job.

And thirdly, this program will ease the transition from school to work. Job Training 2000 will encourage voluntary apprentice programs for high school students, combining quality education, on-the-job training and mentoring. This approach will help these apprentices keep their options open, to pursue their education or alternatively to enter the work force as they wish.

Fourth, and finally, Job Training 2000 promotes lifelong learning. Job Training 2000 establishes lifetime training in education that counts, enabling the federal government to provide the average American tens of thousands of dollars-worth of education and training over the course of his lifetime.

Job Training 2000 will create a kind of passport to continuing education, making it easier for people of all ages to receive grants and loans that they need to keep pace with the challenges of the 21st century workplace. This program is our plan to capture the spirit of programs like the ones that I've been privileged to see today, and bring that innovative Atlanta approach, if you will, to every American community.

Let me say to the young men and women that I've met today, not long from now these four walls will house the new Project CATALYST Center. But what you're building here is far more than a work of bricks and mortar or plaster or paint. This renovation is a symbol of the larger commitment of this community to generate opportunity for the people who call it home.

So, once again, my congratulations on the future that you're building here, on the opportunity you're giving the young people here. And my thanks to the CATALYST team for showing me around this site. And thanks to all of you, whether you're in city government, state government, marketplace, business, labor unions, whatever, for the fine work you are doing, the example you're setting.

And now, back to work. (Laughter.) Hammer time. (Applause.) Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

12:00 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Melbourne, Australia)

For Immediate Release

January 3, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO U.S.-AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY LEADERS

World Congress Centre
Melbourne, Australia

12:40 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Premier, thank you for that wonderfully warm introduction; and to all of the people of Victoria, this wonderful city, for the warmth of your reception. I'd like to salute the Deputy Premier Jim Kennan, and his wife, Janet; Governor McCaughey and his wife, Jean; our Ambassador Mel Sembler, and his wife, Betty. I'd like to single out and identify for those of you who have not met him, our very able Secretary of Commerce who's traveling with me on this trip, Secretary Bob Mosbacher, over here; and thank our hosts for a wonderful day here, two of whom I think are also with us at this luncheon -- Dick Warburton, who's President of the American Chamber of Commerce; and Brian Loton, the President of the Business Council of Australia.

Australia's national anthem speaks of a land abounding in nature's gifts, of beauty rich and rare. Well, Barbara and I feel richer for the rare privilege of being with you today. And, Joan, tell your friend that the only button that I have my finger on these days is the one where I try to set the clock on my VCR. (Laughter.) And I hope it always stays that way. (Applause.)

And I'm also glad to visit this country where much of your beautiful land is known as bush country. (Laughter.) And now, if I can just get that description to apply to 50 states back home, all will be well. (Laughter.)

Ten years ago this May, I first visited Australia to mark the 40th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. And since then, we have toiled together to advance what I call the hard work of freedom.

And I'm here to talk of how Australia and America can use that work to help build a better world. And we will build it through liberty and opportunity and through trade that is both free and fair. And we will build it by using our common culture and principles to promote prosperity at home and democracy abroad -- especially the jobs and economic growth that is my highest priority.

This morning, Barbara and I visited the Australian War Memorial, where our alliance reminded me of General Patton's words: "Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men." The memorial stirs the memory of heroes who stood with our troops in combat, heroes who fought together to defend our common ideals. And our task now is to join together to create a world where the force of law outlasts the use of force.

The successful end of the Cold War brings the promise of a world of peace and dignity. Its triumph is inevitable, but only if democracies are resolute. Globally, you all, Australia, has encouraged this concept by supporting a more engaged United Nations. And regionally, you helped shape the framework for the Cambodia peace settlement agreed to by warring factions. And I assure you, here,

- more -

too, we, America, are your partners. We will not abandon the special responsibility we have to help further stability in this region.

More than 150 years ago, President Andrew Jackson appointed J. H. Williams as the first American consul here. And arriving from Boston, Williams was greeted by a newspaper article. "We welcome his arrival," read the Australian paper, "as a pledge of increasing intimacy between the two countries from which mutual advantages may be expected to flow." One hundred and fifty years ago.

In the Persian Gulf conflict, those advantages served the cause of peace. And you were quick to condemn the Iraqi invasion, to endorse economic sanctions, to send ships to participate in the multinational coalition. And I thank you also for sending medical teams and humanitarian relief to Kurds and Iraqis fleeing Saddam's oppression. On Iraq, it is my hope that the Iraqi people now will rid themselves of that brutal dictator, Saddam Hussein, so that our countries can start over with Iraq. You see, we have no argument with the people of Iraq or even with the military in Iraq. Our difference is with the bully, Saddam Hussein.

Australia has stood fast for principles of decency and peace. In 1984 you helped create the Australia Group, which today includes 22 member nations, each dedicated to preventing the use and spread of chemical and biological weapons. Australia believes that multilateral solutions can solve global problems. And so do I. Through two world wars and other international conflicts, Americans have learned that they cannot divorce their destinies from the destinies of Europe and Asia.

History teaches that peace is indivisible; political isolationism doesn't work. As a new century beckons, we will use that lesson in support of peace and in hopes of preventing future wars. The Australian statesman, Alfred Deakin, once said, "Next to our own nation we place our kindred in America." He knew that we are all members of the world community. And so we need to strengthen our already steadfast commitment to Asia and to the Pacific region, increasing democracy, free expression, and, yes, free markets.

In 1990, the two-way trade between this region and the United States totaled \$300 billion. And I say that we can, we must, and we will expand our ties of trade.

In America, one-third of our growth between 1986 and 1990 flowed from merchandise exports. To increase that growth -- which means more jobs -- Australia and America need the cooperation that must be a cornerstone of the post-Cold War world. That cooperation will increase trade, open markets, and ensure jobs.

On the other hand, economic isolationism is a bankrupt notion. Protectionism -- it closes markets, it ensures poverty and it costs jobs. America cannot and must not go down that dead-end street -- and we won't as long as I am President of the United States. (Applause.)

You know that America is enduring tough economic times, and I know that Australia is facing hard times as well. American companies exported \$8.5 billion in merchandise to Australia in 1990 -- \$200 million more than in 1989. And we both need the new jobs that increased exports provide. Competition has compelled American companies to produce better goods and services than ever before. And I have full confidence that on a level playing field our workers can compete with anybody, anywhere.

And speaking of success in a free and fair trade environment, I have with me a delegation of American business leaders, including some that do business very successfully right here in Australia. Their success is a tribute not only to their commitment to quality, but also to the basic openness and fairness of Australia's markets.

I had an outstanding chance to visit today with businesses doing business right here in Victoria -- some American, some others -- but all doing business and pleading for more open and fair access to markets.

The business delegation is with me to help our efforts to open markets and spur economic growth all around the Pacific Rim. We ask no more and no less than you do: a playing field where partners treat each other fairly. And like us, you understand that free trade must be fair trade. I applaud your policies to foster greater openness and competitiveness in the economy, especially erasing most import quotas and cutting domestic subsidies and tariffs. And I commend your efforts to strengthen the international economic system -- spurring a regional effort to promote freer trade by erasing trade barriers.

None of this has come easily, but thanks to you, we have made steady progress. And I am grateful that several years ago Australia led the way to create Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation -- APEC -- the premier economic forum in the Pacific. Since APEC's first ministerial meeting in Canberra two years ago, it has mobilized the support of all 15 participants to push for progress in the GATT Uruguay Round.

And like the United States, other APEC members want to find ways to achieve sustainable growth, increase employment, and preserve the environment. And so do we. We want the jobs that stem from economic cooperation among Pacific Rim market economies, including the United States.

And just as we need your help, I want to pledge you our help. It is true that with so much in common, our two nations generally agree on goals. And let's face it, it is also true that occasionally we differ on means. I've heard a good deal about one: One difference is our use of this Export Enhancement Program -- the EEP, it is known as -- to counter the agriculture subsidies of the European Community.

And let me be clear: Australia is not the target of the program. As I said before the Parliament yesterday, the EEP has one and only one objective: to force the EC to stop its avalanche of subsidized exports. The EC subsidizes 10 times the exports as do we in the United States of America.

I know discussions on this issue are difficult, and that Australia's position is based on the fact that Australian farmers are enduring hardship. I've learned that firsthand on this trip. I know -- I met with representatives of Australia's farmers just yesterday. And I heard firsthand their deep concerns and I shared with them the depth of sentiment among America's farmers. Our farmers are hurting too. I told them we weren't looking for sympathy, but I pointed out that our wheat production dropped by 30 percent last year.

Both of us want progress. Back in Washington, an Australian delegation recently visited our Department of Agriculture. We heard your perspective on the current world market situation, and your appeal for sensitivity to Australian trade.

Australian officials have expressed interest in holding follow-up talks early this year. That, too, is very encouraging. Both our governments are working hard on the real solution to this difficult problem. We can regain the momentum for progress by using what's called the Dunkel Draft as a basis for achieving a successful conclusion to the GATT Round of trade talks. It is essential -- believe me, it is absolutely essential, not just for agriculture, but for world trade, that those talks succeed and that we make real progress in a wide array of areas, but particularly on agriculture.

I have agreed to greater bilateral dialogue on this and other economic issues. Let us show how the "Waltzing Matilda" can meet the "Texas Two-Step." It can be done. And we will seek

understanding in the future as in the past. We can be proud of working together over the last five decades. And so together, let's build upon that record.

We must expand our bilateral relationship in new ways that help our people. We both breathe the same air. So last April, we agreed to pursue energy policies that will increase exports while preserving our environment.

We both believe in the importance of education. So we launched the Australian Center for American Studies. This new center will expand bilateral links by developing programs of value to business and education and the universities. We hope this center will cause future generations to say of America and Australia, in the words of a great hymn: "Blest be the ties that bind."

These ties are economic, military, social, and cultural. This trip I'm on is about broad principles that draw our two nations together. It's about the security of the Pacific. And it's about our global partnership. And it's about our prospects for economic growth.

Our relationship rests upon the shared values of our people -- love of family, faith in God, pride in country, desire to conquer the unknown. The first pictures of Neil Armstrong's adventure on the moon were beamed from Australia's radio telescope at Parkes to a waiting world. Later, Apollo XV was named "Endeavor" after Captain Cook's ship -- in the hope of many future endeavors between our two nations.

So this new year, 1992, let's look forward to our next century together. Let's do the hard work of freedom for ourselves, and especially for our children. Let's help them meet the challenges of their time, as we've met ours: Building the peace, creating opportunity, increasing the benefit of God's bounty for all.

Thank you all very much, and may God bless the people of this great land, Australia. (Applause.)

END

12:58 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 11, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT FUNDRAISER FOR SENATOR MURKOWSKI

The Willard Hotel
Washington, D.C.

12:32 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Frank, thank you. And good luck. (Applause.) Thank you for that very nice welcome. To you all assembled, my thanks to you. And, Nancy, Barbara and I send our very best wishes, not just for the holiday season, but for what's over the horizon for you and that wonderful family. And let me just say good morning -- early morning, or breakfasttime, to our supporters joining us through the magic of television -- all Frank's friends up there in Anchorage, with Senator Ted Stevens, our great leader up there who is doing a wonderful job, side by side with Frank in Fairbanks; Mr. Richard Wien, who I understand is connected to this, and so I salute you, sir, and all assembled. And thank you for your work on this.

And good afternoon, of course, to our friends here in Washington. I'm told that Ed Derwinski was to be here. I saw Senator Strom Thurmond; Kit Bond is to be here -- Senator from Missouri; Larry Craig, another great Senator; and, of course, standing at my left, and chairman of this event, the indefatigable and wonderful Lod Cook, to whom we are all very, very grateful. (Applause.)

I had a chance to greet some of you all, and I know that many of you have traveled from all corners of America -- New York and California, well represented; and of course, Alaska, just to be here. And to anyone here that I've missed, warm greetings to you. Let me salute the marvelous music we had earlier on, and I just wish you all the greatest for Christmas.

May I say to all of you that your support means an awful lot. It means a great deal to Frank. He's touched, and I'm sure you've been touched, too. (Laughter.) But it is very important that this man be reelected. And I'm here today saluting what I think is one of our essential key members of the team up there on Capitol Hill. He is a public servant -- and Lod put it well -- dedicated to the people of his state. He never forgot how he got sent here to Washington, D.C., and he is a leader that is constantly looking forward, helping us try to find ways to build a better America. So the people of Alaska are fortunate, and the people of this country are fortunate to have Senator Frank Murkowski in the United States Senate, and please keep him there. (Applause.)

We need him. We need him in the Senate, and we need more people in Congress like Frank -- men and women who believe in growth and opportunity for all Americans, elected leaders who are committed to excellence at home and then are fighting for this competitiveness abroad. And I need more Republicans in Congress -- and we need to keep the good ones there that we've already got.

He just came back, as he mentioned in his opening remarks, from Taiwan, Korea, Japan -- where he did reach agreement to end this drift net fishing. Took a leadership role there, took on what was considered an extraordinarily tough problem and of enormous help in getting it resolved.

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As Vice Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and as Ranking Member of the East Asian and Pacific Foreign Relations Subcommittee, he understands -- he understands far better than most that we are a Pacific nation -- Alaska is a Pacific state. We have all these other events unfolding all around the world -- in Eastern Europe, in the Middle East, in South America -- all of them positive, I might add. But we must never forget that we are a Pacific power. Our largest trading partners, in total, are in the Pacific area, the Pacific Rim.

Last week -- and it was emotional -- I went out to Pearl Harbor to commemorate that "Day of Infamy" in 1941. And sadly, Pearl Harbor was a tragedy brought about by the folly of isolationism. Today's neo-isolationism and then its economic accomplice -- protectionism -- are just as dangerous today as they were some 50 years ago.

The fact is, this country has enjoyed its most lasting growth and economic opportunity -- and security, I might add -- when we rejected isolationism -- both political and economic -- in favor of engagement and leadership. We are, then, a Pacific nation. Next month in Asia -- and I'm looking forward to this -- I'll discuss with some of our Pacific friends and allies their responsibility to share with us the challenges and burden of leadership in the post-Cold War world.

In today's world, American lives and American jobs, our prosperity, our security, depend upon our ability to compete and to lead. That's why I am looking forward to this trip, and we are determined to go there, do what Frank has been doing as your Alaskan Senator -- to help open up new markets for American products and create new opportunities for American workers. The answer isn't to turn inward, it's to extend our opportunities outward.

We feel the benefits of foreign trade here at home -- particularly in Alaska -- with its exports of timber and fish and coal. It is important to acknowledge that last year alone, the total gross exports accounted for virtually all of the economic growth in the country. So with a sluggish economy, we will continue to do all we can to reach out and expand our overseas markets.

Speaking of our economy, certainly we all know that some people are having a rough go of it, a tough time. I see that message in letters, and I hear it in conversations in the communities I visit. While Congress is home for the holidays, they'll be hearing that same message. And I hope they listen closely. Because when I give the State of the Union Address before Congress in January, I will ask them to put politics aside and come together and take some very important steps for growth and opportunity. I intend to propose a new -- we've sent up three different economic growth packages in the last three years -- but I intend now to propose a new economic growth package to get this economy moving.

Among the most -- I believe Congress will act. I know leaders like Frank Murkowski will be at my side on this -- but I believe Congress will act. I think the American people want us to get the job done. They don't care who gets credit. They're tired of the bickering. Let's get on with it.

Among the most important elements of what we've tried to get acted upon these last three years is our plan to boost American competitiveness -- through initiatives like our America 2000 Initiative for excellence in education. It's a wonderful program to revolutionize our schools. Our job-creating Transportation Strategy to efficiently move goods and services between markets -- and I'm looking forward to signing that bill. Our Civil Justice Reform plan to keep employers in the factories and out of the courtrooms; and our National Energy Strategy to cut our dependence on foreign oil.
(Applause.)

Let me say a word about this, about our Energy Strategy, and say this: that Frank is committed -- and let me just assure you I remain committed -- to environmentally responsible access to ANWR. It is absolutely essential.

You know, the critics said years ago when the debate was on, on the pipeline up there, the Alaska pipeline, that caribou would be extinct because of this. (Laughter.) Well, there's so many caribou they're rubbing up against the pipeline, they're breeding like mad. They're having a great time. And it is a sound environment up there. (Applause.) So don't listen to the arguments from the same people that gave us the same arguments before and were proved wrong. Listen to the President who says we -- our national security, our own national interest depends upon our having an energy program that makes us less dependent on foreign oil. And I'm never going to change my view on that. (Applause.) If Caribou could vote, Murkowski would be in by a landslide. (Laughter.)

Let me just close this way: I am determined to get this economy moving again. We've got to make the American Dream come alive for all Americans. And we've got to keep this good American, this fine servant of Alaska and our country in the United States Senate. And with your help, I am absolutely confident that that will be done.

Frank, keep up the good work. Take a little time off for Christmas and possibly New Year. And to all in Alaska who are plugged in, my greetings to you, and may you have a wonderful holiday season. And God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

12:42 P.M. EST

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Ontario, California)

For Immediate Release

December 6, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ADDRESS TO MAG INSTRUMENT EMPLOYEES

Mag Instrument Factory
Ontario, California

11:51 A.M. PST

THE PRESIDENT: Well, thank you, Tony and Claire, and thank all of you for the tour we just went on. It's nice to see both Tony and Claire. I saw them a couple of weeks ago back in Washington. The Maglicas are doing a great job. And I also am pleased to see Senator Seymour, one of California's two senators with us here today, sitting up here with me.

And we brought another person along, but I don't see her -- Pat Saiki over here, who is with me on our way out to Pearl Harbor. And she is the Head of the Small Business Administration back in Washington. Pat, welcome. (Applause.)

There was a bit of confusion on the way in today. I arrived at the factory; one of my aides handed me a beer. And I said to them, look, I said I wanted a Maglite. (Laughter.)

I got to know Tony and Claire during the inauguration, when they sent 40,000 points of light -- these mini Maglites that you all make -- as symbolic, what we call Points of Light, to demonstrate their faith in the power volunteers have to build a better America. And Mag Instrument represents the spirit of enterprise, the devotion to quality, the principle of hands-on leadership that will carry us into the next American century. Let me tell you why.

Tony Maglica's story, in essence, is the story of the American Dream. A tale of opportunity that began in a Los Angeles garage in 1955. And later, in his job shop, he invented a superior quality flashlight for use by police and firemen whose lives might depend on the quality of the light. Let me add, in fact, Mag Instrument showed its ongoing commitment to these heroes with very generous support for the National Law Enforcement Memorial, which we dedicated in October.

Over the last 10 years, your company has led the way for American competitiveness and excellence, growing from that small shop I talked about, to one of the largest flashlight manufacturers in the entire world.

Mag Instrument products are made in America, made with American parts and they're made by the best, they're made by American workers. And the commitment to American quality -- from raw materials to design to production -- has put your company, has put Mag Instrument right up at the top. And that's what will put our country right up at the top, too.

Tony is living proof, when the fight is fair, American manufacturers can outproduce, outsell and outcompete any other nation on Earth. (Applause.)

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And that's why we're striving hard in the administration to open foreign markets to American goods and services -- to continue solid, job-creating export growth. We want companies to follow Mag Instrument's lead in building export business. Their exports comprised over a quarter of their total sales this year. And that's good business, because last year alone total gross exports accounted for virtually all of this nation's economic growth.

We want to keep inflation low, interest rates down, productivity high so that American business can stay competitive. And to do it we've proposed initiatives to cut senseless government regulation, to improve education. And Barbara's working very hard in her way on helping people learn to read -- improve education, improve job training. And here's one Tony will like -- reform our civil justice system so that employers can stay on the factory floors and out of the courtrooms. And we're going to continue to work on that one, too. (Applause.) I won't tell you the figure Tony told me that he had to spend in protecting patent rights of the products that you all develop here, but it is mind-boggling.

All of this is part of our strategy then for long-term economic growth in this country, particularly as it relates to exports -- a strategy I laid out from day one of my presidency. Since then, frankly, I've called on the Congress to act on our capital gains tax cut to stimulate investment. But more important, it would stimulate job creation all across the state of California. And we need more jobs in the state of California. I've called on Congress to act on our R&D tax credit, to create new technologies and new jobs; to act on IRAs, these retirement accounts, you know, for first-time home buyers -- that would stimulate the housing market. And to enact banking reform legislation to make our banks more competitive and to make that capital flow to entrepreneurs like Tony that have created so many jobs right here.

People are hurting. And I hear it from just plain everyday Americans, and the letters I read back in Washington, conversations on the shop floor in places like this and more recent, just before this, down in Florida and over in the state of Mississippi.

And while Congress is home for the holidays, I hope that they're getting the message, too. Then, when they come back in January, what I plan to do is to ask them to put politics aside -- it's going to be an election year -- but lay the politics aside just long enough to take some important steps to get this economy on the move again.

And I'm going to hold out my hand, extend it, I promise you that. And that's because I believe we can create more hope for the future. We can build greater prosperity. We can bring the American Dream to life for all Americans. You give America the tools and they'll get the job done. And you give me a Congress I can work with and more businessmen like Tony and Claire here, more companies like this one in America, and we all together will get the job done.

So I really wanted to come by and learn, and I have. I've watched how this all works in there. I've heard the enthusiasm of Tony Maglica; it's contagious, it's an infectious feeling. He says anybody can get this job done, and I believe we can. I am absolutely confident that things are going to be better, and I'm going to keep right on working hard in Washington and then when Congress comes back, to do my part.

Thank you for a very inspiring day. And you might be interested in this. Barbara and I, when we leave here, we go to a lunch downtown, a Kiwanis lunch, and then we're heading out to Pearl Harbor for the commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day, which will be tomorrow -- turning point really in terms of peace and freedom in the

world; certainly a memorable time in the history of our great country. But as I conclude, I think it's also a blessing that it looks like, because of the leadership of the United States of America, your kids and our grandkids can grow up in a much more peaceful world. And that's something to say our thanks to God for.

Thank you all and God bless our country. (Applause.)

END

12:00 P.M. PST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 18, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PRESENTATION OF THE MEDAL OF FREEDOM AWARDS

The State Floor

11:30 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome. Welcome, and please be seated. Let me first single out President Ford and say how pleased we are to have him here. And, of course, members of our Cabinet over here. And especially today, the families and friends of the recipients.

It's a special honor to have the privilege of presenting the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Since the first Presidential Medal, since those first recipients were chosen by President John Kennedy in 1963, some of the world's most notable individuals have been honored. In this administration alone, the medal is awarded to war heroes like General Doolittle -- Jimmy Doolittle; General Schwarzkopf; diplomats and public servants like Jim Baker and Margaret Chase Smith and Douglas Dillon; world-famous entertainers such as Lucille Ball; and just last year, a world leader of enormous consequence, former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

And each of these extraordinary individuals were pioneers in their own right. Each a monument to individual achievement. I'll never forget that November night two years ago when Lech Walesa accepted his medal right here in this room, saying that now one of the greatest dreams of his life had been fulfilled because this medal stood for the freedom of a nation and the freedom of mankind.

Today we recognize 10 men and women who have enriched our nation, whether as leaders of popular movements, as friends of the common man, or as intellectual giants. Their achievement and dedication are unparalleled in America. And their standards of excellence are just as towering as their commitment to the ideal of freedom.

Author Bill Buckley is the celebrated founder of one of the largest journals of opinion in America, a preeminent intellectual in the American conservative movement and a distinguished author. Bill Buckley raised the level of political debate in this country and our nation is better for it. A true renaissance man, we honor him today for a lifetime of achievement in American political and social thought.

Clergyman and civil rights leader, Reverend Leon Sullivan. Leon has been a voice of reason throughout the latter half of this century. A vigorous proponent of equal rights for all, Reverend Sullivan founded OIC, Opportunities Industrialization Centers, one of the world's largest self-help and job training facilities. More recently, he has worked hard to develop closer ties between this country and Africa. Reverend, we salute your leadership in one of the great movements of our time, here and throughout the world: Equal rights under law.

Conservationist Russell Train has devoted his life to the protection and conservation of our land and wildlife. Serving

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both in private environmental groups and in the federal government. I've often referred to President Theodore Roosevelt's idea that we don't inherit the environment from our parents so much as borrow it from our children. For the legacy you are helping us leave to the children of America, sir, we thank you.

Baseball great Ted Williams whom I don't see sitting here -- oops, there he is over on the -- don't say anything -- (laughter) -- is an American legend, a remarkable figure in American sports and a twice-tested war hero. At the height of his athletic career, he answered the call of patriotism, serving his country in both World War II and the Korean War. A true champion in the eyes of many Americans. An author wrote of his retirement from baseball, "And now Boston knows how England felt when it lost India." (Laughter.) Ted, congratulations.

Former First Lady Betty Ford, she first inspired our nation when fighting her own battle against breast cancer, she drew national attention to the importance of early detection. Later, as President of the Betty Ford Center, she restored hope and dignity to those lost in the desperation of drug and alcohol dependency. Mrs. Ford, your compassion and caring have shown millions the way to new lives of freedom.

Former Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill is a legendary figure in American politics, blessed with the common touch like few others. Over 50 years ago, Tip entered the rough-and-tumble of Massachusetts politics and soon became the Bay State's first Democratic speaker. Throughout 40 years as a member of Congress and a decade as Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill built one of the most remarkable political careers of this century. He is a tough partisan -- Jerry, would you agree to that. (Laughter.) But above all, far more important, a true patriot. Congratulations.

And to former Puerto Rico Governor Don Luis Ferre, an old friend. He's known as the grand old man of Puerto Rico. Beloved by his people as a patron of the arts, a savvy businessman, and a public servant of the first order, Don Luis is a life-long advocate of statehood for Puerto Rico. And, sir, we honor you today as an extraordinary leader in the life of Puerto Rico.

Historian and humanist, Hanna Gray is a world-class educator. The first woman to serve as president of a major university, the University of Chicago. Throughout her career, Mrs. Gray has been widely regarded as an outstanding renaissance scholar. An example for others in her profession, she continues to teach at least one class a semester. Mrs. Gray, for your pursuit of the highest ideals in your profession and your commitment to excellence in American education, we salute you.

Vernon Walters enlisted in the Army as a private in 1941 before the outbreak of World War II. Nearly half a century later, he was our ambassador to Germany during the fall of the Berlin Wall. In the years between, he served six presidents as a statesman, an ambassador and a trusted aide. His brilliant mastery of the art of diplomacy is renowned, and his extraordinary linguistic skills have frequently advanced our diplomatic efforts, often in the face of grave danger. It's been said that courage is the price that life exacts for granting peace. For your courageous service, sir, to the cause of peace and the American ideal, we thank you.

And, finally, we honor Professor Friedrich von Hayek for a lifetime of looking beyond the horizon. At a time when many saw socialism as ordained by history, he foresaw freedom's triumph. Over 40 years ago, Professor von Hayek wrote that "the road to serfdom" was not the road to the future or to the political and economic freedom of man. A Nobel Laureate, he is widely credited as one of the most influential economic writers of our century. Professor von

Hayek is revered by the free people of Central and Eastern Europe as a true visionary and recognized worldwide as a revolutionary in intellectual and political thought. How magnificent it must be for him to witness his ideas validated before the eyes of the world. We salute him.

The people of the United States are indeed indebted to each of our honorees. You have touched us. You have enriched us. You have shaped our nation's destiny. And you've also shown us the strength and joy of a simple but powerful idea, the idea of freedom.

God bless each of you, and may God bless our country. And now Barbara and I have the honor to present these awards, and the aide will read the citations for us.

(Presentation of awards.)

THE PRESIDENT: That concludes the ceremony. And Barbara and I look forward to greeting all of you out here. And we'll see you in a minute. (Applause.)

END

11:52 A.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 31, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENT
AND CONSERVATION CHALLENGE AWARDS

The Rose Garden

11:29 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Some beautiful day here in the Rose Garden. And may I salute Secretary Lujan and Secretary Jim Watkins here and Bill Reilly, EPA Administrator. Of course, Chairman Mike Deland and Dick Austin of GSA. Welcome to the White House, and happy Halloween to all. (Applause.)

I saw something on TV last night that I'd like to respond to before we begin here. Despite what happens to Linus every year in the pumpkin patch, I do believe in the Great Pumpkin. (Applause.) Now you old guys wouldn't get it, but I'll tell you -- (Applause.)

It is a real pleasure to have our Presidential Award winners -- the Challenge Award, it's called -- here on such a beautiful late October day. And I'd especially like to thank the Awards Partners who made this first-time awards ceremony possible. Gil Grosvenor behind me here of the National Geographic; Frank Bennack here of the Hearst Corporation; Mr. Allison is here today representing Drew Lewis of the Business Roundtable; and Russell Train of the World Wildlife Fund. Let me also add a note of thanks to the Awards Selection Committee and the technical advisors.

Last month, I had the chance to visit the Grand Canyon, a magnificent, almost miraculous sight on a spectacular day. And the scale of all that actually staggers the senses. And that day in September, I spoke about the power of innovation and the strength of cooperation as the foundation for a new generation of environmental action.

Today, we are honoring nine medalists and 23 citation winners who embody the new generation of environmental entrepreneurs. As President, I've had the distinction of honoring Americans for their achievement in the arts, humanities, sciences, and this time now has come for the country to honor achievement in the understanding and conservation of our environment.

We have with us today people who have formed partnerships to protect natural wildlife -- from the Great Lakes in the North to the Playa Lakes in the Great Southwest, and from the Sacramento River to the Barrier Islands off the Atlantic Seaboard.

We are also recognizing companies that have integrated environmental values into virtually every single business decision -- whether they are involved in fast food or financial services, newspapers, utilities, household products or furniture.

And we honor other winners because they pioneered new technologies that save both money and the environment -- with creative solutions to challenges like agricultural pollution and

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ozone depletion, and state-of-the-art techniques for recycling paper, metal and plastics.

And finally, we recognize groups who have inspired a new respect for the environment in millions of Americans: newspaper and magazine groups, book publishers, teaching institutions, media advisors to TV and film industries -- even the Girl Scouts. And these outstanding Americans have given us cleaner technologies and products, better ways to manage natural areas, and a greater capacity for environmental problem-solving. They are working to improve the quality of life for all Americans through a safe and healthy environment.

Earlier in this century, a man I deeply admire also visited the Grand Canyon -- and likewise shared his thoughts with the crowd assembled. Looking out over what he called a vista of "great loneliness and beauty," President Theodore Roosevelt said: "The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it. We have gotten past the stage when we are to be pardoned if we treat any part of our country as something to be skinned for two or three years for the use of the present generation, whether it is the forest, the water, the scenery. Whatever it is, handle it so that your children's children will get the benefit of it."

Each of you understands President Roosevelt's challenge. Each of you has acted on it -- taken it upon yourselves to ensure that future generations will inherit a safe and healthy environment. And for that, you have my admiration, my gratitude. And please keep up the good fight. And now let's, if we could, Mike, hand out these well-earned awards.

(The Awards are presented.)

While you all are here, I have a special announcement to make. We talk a lot about recycling. Well, today we're going to save a few trees by giving two speeches at the same time -- (laughter) --piloting a new program in recycling audiences, too. So here goes. (Laughter.)

But seriously, we are taking a major step in placing the federal government in its proper role of leadership by example by increasing all federal recycling and use of recycled materials. By signing this Executive Order today, we will establish a Federal Recycling Coordinator and individual recycling coordinators at each federal agency. And we are directing, where possible, products made from recycled materials are procured for government use. Simply put, we are requiring all federal agencies to strengthen their recycling efforts, hopefully thus setting an example for others around our country.

And so, with that said, I am very pleased to sign this Executive Order. (Applause.)

(The Executive Order is signed.)

Thank you all. Such a beautiful day. Thank you for being with us.

END

11:40 A.M. EST

416880

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 28, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN SATELLITE TELECONFERENCE WITH THE AMERICAN GAS CONFERENCE
OF THE
AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION

Room 459
Old Executive Office Building

12:09 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Mike, thank you very much, and thank you for those good words. And may I salute your Chairman, Bill McCormick, the incoming Chairman, Dick Farman. And I am delighted to be able to join you by satellite in San Diego at the 73rd Annual Conference of the American Gas Association.

I'd like to talk to you today about our energy future -- about America's energy future -- the indispensable foundation for the goods we produce, the enterprises we launch, and the quality of life we enjoy. When our administration developed our national energy strategy, three principles guided our policy making: reducing our dependence on foreign oil, protecting our environment, and promoting economic growth. As a part of our comprehensive energy strategy, natural gas is key to all three.

First, decreasing our dependence on insecure energy supplies is a top priority of this administration. We're willing to practice what we preach. In April of this year, I took action to put the federal government in the lead on increasing energy efficiency by issuing an Executive Order that calls for sharp reductions in federal energy use. Under this new mandate, overall federal energy consumption will be reduced by 20 percent from 1985 levels within a decade. Fuel consumption in the federal fleet will be pared by 10 percent from current levels within four years, and the federal government will increase its purchases of vehicles powered by alternative fuels like compressed natural gas.

Contrary to gloomy predictions of the '70s, when misguided federal regulation created natural gas shortages, we are blessed now with abundant supplies of natural gas within our own borders. In fact, the Department of Energy recently reported a 113 percent replacement of reserves for 1990 in the lower 48 -- the lower 48 states. To assure that supplies of natural gas remain ample, we must rely on the logic of the marketplace, and that is why in 1989 we enacted a law phasing out the last federal wellhead price controls on natural gas so that the free market could do its work.

Second, we're committed to preserving and protecting the environment. No question about that. We looked to the ingenuity of the free market as we worked to defend our precious environment through enactment of the Clean Air Act Amendments. The AGA was one of the first major trade groups to endorse our administration's proposal for clean air legislation, and I am very grateful, and I thank you for that effort. As clean-burning natural gas is put to work in generating electricity, for fueling vehicles, cooling and heating, and supplying the needs of the industry, Americans know that the environment stands to benefit.

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And third, energy security and environmental protection must go hand in hand with economic growth. And that growth depends upon opening new markets and new opportunities for American industry. A North American free trade agreement will promote economic growth throughout this continent. Your industry knows what I am talking about. The northern tier of Mexico is the largest single export market for U.S. natural gas, and with this agreement we are looking forward to continued growth and opportunity.

Economic growth also depends upon an educated work force. America's natural gas producers, companies and utilities are doing a great job -- a great deal to make their communities places where learning can happen. Your Education 2000 program -- a 10-year, industry-wide commitment to helping our nation reform its schools -- is a great example of the partnerships necessary to invent a new generation of American schools. I urge you and all of your members to continue to engage in the education reform movement so that we can prepare American children to compete and win in the global marketplace.

Economic growth, environmental protection, energy security and a well-prepared work force are crucial to America's success in the next century. As part of the fabric of daily life in America, your companies and employees can make a real difference. In many ways, you already are -- and for that, I thank you.

I wish you a successful conference and best wishes in the coming year. And now I'll be glad to take a few questions. (Applause.)

MODERATOR: Mr. President, our Chairman, Bill McCormick has a question for you.

MR. MCCORMICK: Mr. President, we praise you for your leadership in the Clean Air Act Amendments passed by the Congress last year, and we were pleased to support the administration's goals in the Act. We also appreciate your work toward enactment of the national energy strategy that you proposed earlier this year. AGA has been supportive of this initiative since the outset. The Senate looks like it will begin debate soon on the NES, and we wanted to know how you foresee the debate shaping up and your administration's role as the debate unfolds?

THE PRESIDENT: Bill, as I said earlier, securing a clean and affordable energy future is a very important objective of our entire administration. And that is why I am supporting this bipartisan energy bill -- S.1220 to the technocrats there -- that should go before the Senate very soon. This bill incorporates many important principles of this national energy strategy of ours.

During the Senate's deliberations on this bill, we are going to be working very closely with Senators Bennett Johnston -- well known to all of you there -- Malcomb Wallop the same -- to ensure that our key provisions remain intact. In keeping with our goal of increased domestic energy production, I remain committed to providing environmentally-responsible energy development in ANWR -- in the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge. And I want to avoid the crippling effects of excessive safe standards because we cannot sacrifice public safety and jobs all in the name of fuel efficiency mandates.

We need your industry's help in getting a good bill on my desk. We are expecting some very tough votes, but I am confident that the American people will understand the importance of enacting a comprehensive balanced energy bill. And let me add, I'm very comforted by the fact that our national security requirements are clearer now and that the threat is less difficult. But I do not want to see us increasingly dependent on foreign sources of energy. And I want to see drilling in this country continue -- it can be done in an

environmentally sound way and I think everybody in your audience there knows that we must continue to drill and produce in this country. We'll do our best, though, to get this energy bill passed.

That's it.

MODERATOR: Mr. President, our Chairman-elect, Dick Farman has a question.

THE PRESIDENT: Shoot Dick --

MR. FARMAN: Mr. President, in your remarks, you mentioned AGA's Education 2000 program and we're all looking forward to hearing later in today's meeting from Greg Petersmeyer on your administration's national service efforts. Would you care to comment on what other domestic initiatives your administration is currently working on or has plans to introduce this year?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Dick, thank you and I'm glad Greg Petersmeyer will be there -- he's been made famous by Doonesbury, if any of you inflict that upon yourselves -- reading that cartoon -- because Greg has done a great job on this Points of Light principle that we believe in and that your association believes in with your own approach to education. So I'm delighted that Greg will be out there with you.

But look, on the domestic agenda, we've advanced a broad aggressive domestic agenda over the last two years. It's included such legislative successes as the Clean Air Act Amendments, the ADA -- that's the Americans with Disabilities Act -- a sweeping piece of civil rights legislation. Our Child Care Bill, one that gives choice to parents, and our HOPE Bill -- that's H-O-P-E, our housing bill that promotes tenant management and ownership of public housing. And we've already mentioned our America 2000 Education Initiative, touched on this national energy strategy of ours. And Congress, right now, is considering provisions of the administration's Crime Bill.

We've sent up two crime bills since 1989, and we're just now seeing action on the key provisions. Some of you may remember that I challenged the Congress to complete action on two bills -- that crime bill and our transportation bill in 100 days -- that was back at the time of the state of the union, I believe. And incidentally, the transportation bill is a bill that would stimulate a sluggish economy. It's job intensive and it would do that -- stimulate -- without busting the budget agreement, without increasing our federal deficit. But here we are, almost eight months later, still waiting for both.

We now have a Civil Rights Bill that I can certify to the American people is not a quota bill. It is fair and it's good. And just last week, I signed an Executive Order to enact reforms in our civil justice system -- I hope some of you saw that.

We need liability reform. We need to check the reckless use of lawsuits and the propensity for more and more outrageous settlements. We'll be sending legislation to the Congress on that very, very soon. And there is one area where you all weighing in can really get something done.

But most importantly, we have offered numerous economic reform proposals which, if they had been enacted by Congress, would have long ago promoted the economic growth that America needs. I am sure some of you are sick of hearing this, but I have proposed a capital gains cut that would, in my view, create more jobs -- and create them soon. We've proposed penalty-free withdrawals from these IRAs for first-time homebuyers. Clearly, that would stimulate -- or would have stimulated the housing market. I've proposed more federal funds for research and development -- a little longer range, but very, very important. Your industry knows this. I've proposed

enterprise zones to stimulate our hardest-hit urban areas. It's not going to cost the taxpayer; it will eventually mean money to the Treasury, because you get those new businesses started in those areas. And then the transportation bill that I just mentioned. And incentives for increased savings and investment.

Throughout the coming legislative year, we will fight tooth and nail for economic growth, opportunity and jobs. And I will fight against legislation that will bust the budget agreement and further burden the young people of this country with more and more debt -- with bigger and bigger federal deficits.

Now, and I realize that this only is a thumbnail sketch of our agenda, but I hope I have responded to your question, and I know there is a lot to be done. I am not relaxed about the economy, but I am not going to jump in and take steps out of some Congressional panic that might make the situation worse or might burden future generations of America more.

So thank you very much for asking the question, and thanks for the opportunity to be out there with you today in this unique way. It works well from our standpoint, and I hope it came through loud and clear over there. But over and out, and many thanks. (Applause.)

END

12:23 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)

For Immediate Release

September 19, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST FOR
SENATOR BOB PACKWOOD

Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon

8:25 A.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Packwood, thank you for that warm and personal introduction. May I salute Bill Packwood down here on the end lest some of you don't recognize this recent graduate of Penn State who flew out with us today. I was just delighted to see him. Also pleased that our Secretary of Transportation Sam Skinner, seating over here, is with us. And he's doing a superb job. We're going off to Los Angeles right after this breakfast to do a little more in the transportation front.

I understand that Senator Seymour is here. I haven't seen him, but Senator Seymour of California is with us. John, why don't you stand up if you are, because I've -- well, so he's not -- where is he? Oh, way back there. (Applause.) He'll be flying down with us to his state of California.

And may I salute Craig Berkman, who -- my friend of long longstanding who the Senator and everyone else tells me is doing a superb job for this party. (Applause.) And Tim Lee, the event chairman -- he's done a mighty good job also, and I salute him. Don't let him rest up too much, we're going to need him for more of these events before this is over, I'm sure. (Applause.)

I also thank the band, the Wilson High School Band over there; the Waverly Children's Home, who led the Pledge of Allegiance; and of course, the choir that put great life into our complicated but wonderfully moving National Anthem. All of them did a first-class job. (Applause.)

Portland, Oregon -- the "City of Roses." Portland is a very special place. But I was thinking, if you had to borrow a name from the state of Maine, how about "Kennebunkport"? Nice ring to it.

But let me say it's been an amazing month or so in our world. I focus going back to Maine this summer in the month of August. Before Congress went on recess, a few remnants of the Cold War remained intact. By the time it had returned -- that Congress had come back, a coup tried to unseat Mikhail Gorbachev -- and instead of that, the coup de grace was given to communism itself.

And I couldn't help note, Reverend, your special appeal about the Baltic States. It's most appropriate as these countries, once considered satellites -- never by the United States -- but considered satellites in the Soviet Union are now free, independent countries, their flags flying at the United Nations as well as over their own capitals. And that is historic. It's long overdue. And I take great pleasure, as I know all Americans do, in their independence. So I'm pleased you mentioned them in your fitting and lovely invocation.

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The changes in the world are indeed staggering and, for the most part, positive. I am very proud of the fact that it is the United States of America that is leading the way. You travel abroad -- and many of you have -- and you see clearly that it is our country which is out front, helping many new fledgling democracies find their way -- in Africa, in South America, and Eastern Europe and, yes, in what used to be an iron Marxist state called the Soviet Union. It is mind-boggling to think of the changes that have taken place just in the last six or seven weeks.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to build a new era of peace and prosperity here and abroad; to build a new world order where the rule of law prevails over the use of force. None of these changes would have taken place if the United States had not remained firmly committed to the cause of freedom. Over the years we stood firm and in this year's tense debates about the Gulf -- these changes couldn't have taken place if Congress hadn't authorized the use of force to stop a brutal dictator.

Bob Packwood was one of those who, against those public opinion polls of the moment, stood with me in that historic debate. And that's just one reason, one of many, that I'm happy to join him here today -- because he is a force for positive good on Capitol Hill. (Applause.)

You know his accomplishments as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, where he's now the ranking Republican -- his influence on tax reform and employee benefits. You know the impact he's had on free enterprise, on trade, and on deregulation -- especially when he was Chairman of Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

But I want to tell you this, and tell you urgently -- and, yes, this is a political gathering to honor him -- but you must return Bob Packwood to the United States Senate. (Applause.) His 23 years -- it will be 24 at election time -- of seniority make him a solid leader of strength and experience. So we need him. The party needs him as a spokesman, as a leader.

And Bob effectively works behind the scenes sometimes to make sure that our message is heard. And it's not easy when you're up against an automatic moving majority that wants to do things just the opposite from the way I was elected to perform. And so I'm delighted he's up there doing that. And one other point: he has a sound record. He hasn't forgotten the human equation. The fact that people need jobs and must not be thrown out of work by extreme environmental positions is known to him. And I don't believe we need extremes to solve the problem. (Applause.)

If that overall message of his is not listened to, we do face trouble. I spoke to Congress 197 days ago, and I issued a simple challenge -- and here, if I might, repeat it. If America can defeat a brutal dictator in a matter of weeks, then surely its legislative body can manage to pass two bills -- the administration's crime and transportation bills -- within 100 days. That was in the State of the Union message 197 days ago.

Well, almost twice that time, that 100 days, has elapsed -- and we still do not have those two bills. And it's clear that the Democrats have no desire to help us advance what is a sound and strong domestic agenda. Their alternative is not a domestic agenda -- it's a political one -- to block our agenda. And we cannot let that succeed.

Occasionally, we have been able to break the logjam -- we're proud of the Clean Air Act that was passed. I think it's good environmental policy; I think it's just good plain national policy. I'm proud of the Americans with Disabilities Act that we managed to pass last year -- the most forward-looking peace and civil rights

MORE

legislation in years. And I'm proud with our success in child care. But we can succeed only with the help of the American people. To continue the fight, we need you to elect and reelect leaders who care deeply about this country -- who care about the approach that I've outlined here -- strong, competent, principled men like Bob Packwood.

And to continue this nation's victories, the American people must rediscover their own genius. That's the heart of our domestic philosophy that overlies our domestic agenda -- the concept that the true power and potential in this land must rest in the hands of the people. Our domestic policy begins by trusting you.

Let me elaborate. Our domestic agenda tries to carry that faith forward into the future. Our housing proposals, for example, would turn housing residents into homeowners; would emphasize tenant management -- letting people in the area itself manage their own affairs. It relies on the belief that our public housing citizens can care for themselves and contribute to our society. Our energy package attempts to conserve energy while encouraging innovation. The transportation package that Sam Skinner has been so inventive in gives more power to local authorities, who know their own needs. The National Drug Strategy is all encompassing, with lots of the most effective work being done by the private sector and at the local level. And our crime package -- the most comprehensive in American history -- tries to give our streets back to the people.

In each case, we want Washington to give power back to the people and give them a chance to shape their own destinies -- rather than having to answer to distant bureaucrats.

And this philosophy serves as the foundation for an issue I'd like to just touch on in a little more detail. I'm talking, of course, about education. Our democracy can remain vital only if we continue to grow in knowledge and wisdom: understanding the increasingly complex and competitive world in which we live.

We Americans can and must revitalize our education system for our children -- for our future. We don't want just a good education system. We want the best. We deserve a system that will give every citizen the power to throw open his or her own door of opportunity.

I came to this job believing that education is our most enduring legacy -- vital to everything that we are and everything we can become. I believe it with even more conviction now.

Five months ago we issued a challenge that we call "America 2000" -- a call to reinvent, revolutionize, if you will, American education. This initiative sketched out the framework for a national education strategy made up of four elements: accountable schools for today -- and I emphasize that word "accountable" -- a new generation of schools for tomorrow -- not do it the same old way; each community find a new way to approach the education challenges in that community, that state; a nation of students committed to a lifetime of education -- I'm floundering around trying to learn how to use that computer a little better and I'm getting up there in years. Nobody is too old to learn -- and a community where learning can happen. And by that I mean an environment in which education can take place, in which kids feel free from fear and they can go on about the business of learning.

Now, you play the critical role in making that strategy work. You must ensure that each of your communities as a whole engages in this commitment to education. People who want Washington to solve all problems are simply missing the point. What happens there doesn't matter half as much as what happens in each hometown. Remember, on the total figures for education, six percent is federal government spending; 94 percent by local and state private entities.

Every person, every school, every town must join this special national army -- an army undertaking the most important crusade of all -- the crusade to prepare our children and ourselves for our country's future. You can -- you must -- make our communities places where learning can happen.

Let me give you just a handful of examples of what Oregonians are doing to help improve education around them. The National Guard, a Willamette University fraternity, Kiwanians and individuals joined together to "adopt" Salem's Richmond Elementary School, which serves a large migrant population. This community so enriches the lives of the students and the school that they won this year's Governor's Volunteerism Award and the district award for outstanding business school partnership.

In Albany, more than 2000 residents have come together to focus on the district's 22 schools through a remarkable business partnership program begun, in this case, by the Chamber of Commerce. In West Linn, not only do parents assist teachers in classrooms, but over 50 percent of middle school science students have been given the chance to strengthen lessons learned in schools through local internships as a part of a program called "Future Makers."

And then there's my favorite place -- I like the name at least -- Salem's Bush Elementary School. (Laughter.) Everyone there in that community has joined to give this school new life, and make it a centerpiece of community life. In this school, where 75 percent of the families live below the poverty level, and one-third speak no English, residents set up an "Even Start" literacy program for kids and parents.

Local college students provide tutoring, mentoring, and help with therapy groups. Volunteers from businesses, hospitals, and the community contribute to weekly tutoring programs. Anyone can join: 85-year-old Esther Wilson has been working with at-risk kids in Salem for nine years. Members of a local church help students with languages -- but they're also building a playground. In Salem, you see, people understand that you must help kids be students -- without forgetting that they're kids. That's because kids ought to experience education as one of life's great joys. The community also encourages parents to volunteer at the school -- this enriches the school and makes citizens feel more a part of their children's education.

There are thousands of stories like this, tens of thousands across this country. This could never happen if somebody tried to design a program in a subcommittee on education in the House of Representatives or in the United States Senate. It couldn't happen. You cannot generate that kind of love and that kind of concern by some federal legislation back in Washington, D.C.

There are thousands of stories like these. And you can write your own versions in your own neighborhoods. America cannot afford to wait, or to waste, an entire generation. As we look ahead to the year 2000 we must answer the call -- "Let tomorrow begin today."

I will stay personally involved. Our new Secretary of Education, Governor Lamar Alexander, is taking a crucial leadership role in advocating and promoting our program called Education 2000. I don't want to turn what is an upbeat, enthusiastic rally for Bob Packwood into a lecture on education, but I feel so strongly about this -- I urge you take a hard look at it. It's not partisan. It gets all across partisan lines. And it really answers the future challenge and says that these kids sitting right over here are going to have a better shot if we get this program fully implemented and fully into effect.

Here in Oregon, you can do something about it also because it is part of the philosophical underpinning of our administration -- and that is to reelect Bob Packwood to the Senate.

You know, I am delighted to be back here in Portland. I'll remember this day next spring when I welcome the Trailblazers to the White House after they win the NBA title. (Applause.) But I reserve the right to change these remarks when I get to Los Angeles. (Laughter.) And then tomorrow I'm going to be in Chicago, so -- (laughter.)

But listen, let me just say this. I am very privileged to be President of the United States at this historic time. The change around the world is so rapid; the ferment and turmoil and change in our country so challenging. I am blessed. And Barbara feels exactly the same way as First Lady. And if I might say a word about her, I think she is doing a superb job as she travels around teaching literacy in this country. (Applause.)

But the longer I'm in this job, the more convinced I am that to get the job done, to finish what so many of you helped me begin, I need good people that look at these broad views philosophically the way we do. Sure, there are going to be differences on one issue or another. But the big thing is Bob Packwood and I share this philosophical underpinning that the best answer is to keep government as close as possible to home. That's education, that's fighting drugs -- whatever it is.

And so, let me just say, please, go all out in '92 and return this good man to the United States Senate.

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

Well, again, thanks for your welcome and your support. God bless you all.

END

8:44 A.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Kiev, Ukraine, USSR)

For Immediate Release

August 1, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT LUNCHEON WITH CHAIRMAN KRAVCHUK

Mariisnkiy Palace
Kiev, Ukraine, USSR

3:10 P.M. (L)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Thank you very much. And I am very grateful to Chairman Kravchuk and people of Ukraine for welcoming us so warmly through your Golden Gate.

I will shorten these remarks because our lives are controlled by satellites these days. But I've come here to Kiev to learn more about the tremendous challenges you face, to strengthen the ties that link the people of America and the people of Ukraine, and to signal our strong support for free markets and free government.

Our people are not strangers. In Chicago and Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, and all across America, hundreds of thousands of Ukranian Americans preserve your proud heritage and history.

The end of the of Cold War opens opportunities to forge a new relationship. Through increased trade, expanded exchanges -- through American medical assistance, efforts aimed at helping you cope with the after-effects of Chernobyl -- the United States and Ukraine can build a future based on shared aspirations and common interests.

So our visit marks a beginning. We don't come to tell you how to pursue your future. We won't preach, nor prescribe solutions. We come to offer our expertise, our hopes. And we will do our best to build sturdier ties of culture, ideas and trade with the Soviet Union and all of its republics.

America stands ready to support the forces of reform in Ukraine -- especially those of economic reform. But in the end, we recognize that Ukraine will shape its own future. And only you can transform an economy based on the concept of command and control into one based on the laws of supply and demand.

Only you can guarantee the sovereign rights of the individual -- political, religious, and economic.

You will bear responsibility for making your land more prosperous and free -- according to your traditions and cultures, your hopes and dreams.

May God bless both our lands. And may I say, thank you Chairman for your hospitality. Mrs. Bush and I and all that travel with us are just delighted to be here. Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

END

3:20 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 24, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON NATIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY

Room 450
Old Executive Office Building

2:53 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated. Thank you all very much. Well, may I just thank everybody for coming, and first of all greet our Secretaries: Jim Watkins, who is doing an absolutely superb job on the energy front, and I'm delighted that he's here. And I think after I do my number here, why, he will get into a lot more of the substance. But I want to salute also Manuel Lujan and Bill Reilly, key players in our drive to do a better job on the energy front.

And, of course, we have in the front row, in case those of you in the back haven't seen them, Senator Wallop and Senator Bennett Johnston and Phil Sharp. And Mike Deland is over here. I'm getting in trouble because I'm going to -- I thought Martin Allday was supposed to be here from FERC. There he is right there in the second row -- Midland, Texas man. (Laughter.) Thank you again.

Five months ago -- and many of you, maybe not all, but put it this way, most were probably here that day -- we announced our comprehensive and balanced strategy for an energy future that is secure, efficient and environmentally sound. And our National Energy Strategy is designed to meet needs this nation can't afford to compromise: continued economic growth, increased energy efficiency, strong environmental protection and then a reduced dependence on foreign oil.

This strategy relies on the magic of the marketplace, the resourcefulness of the American people and the responsible leadership of industry and government. As we enter the next American century, this balanced approach will propel a larger and larger American economy in a more and more energy-efficient way.

And some have pushed for radical measures in order to reduce the oil imports and reduce our dependency; measures that, in my view, would hurt American industries and jobs and consumers. So we've got to act with care, but it is our firm belief that we've got to act comprehensively.

And our Energy Strategy strikes a balance. We believe it is a sound and reasonable middle ground that will achieve greater energy security without endangering the environment or stopping the economy in its tracks.

We start by using energy more efficiently. And we've got to accelerate our research efforts, to keep America on the cutting edge of new energy technologies like alternative fuels, electric cars, high-speed rail, solar and geothermal, safer and more secure nuclear technology.

Today, we want to build an energy future that opens the door to new and diverse energy sources, because our energy future should never be at the mercy of foreign exporters.

As Jim Watkins will tell you, most of the initiatives contained in this strategy can be implemented under existing

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authority. And the administration has already made, I think, a great deal of progress. We've set in motion a substantial part of the strategy already, in other words, without waiting for needed legislation -- legislation that's needed in other areas.

On the legislative front, we've made substantial headway since we released the strategy last February. And I just can't tell you how much I appreciate the leadership of the members of Congress that are here. We're talking principally about the Senate bill here, but Senator Johnston and Senator Wallop, the Senate Energy Committee passed a comprehensive and a balanced energy bill, one which embodies the key elements of our strategy. And for them it hasn't been easy. They've had to compensate and consider a lot of interests up there, but they've done a superb job. And I urge the full Senate to act swiftly on this bill which should win support from conservationists and industry alike.

There's been a lot said about the Johnston-Wallop bill, some of it, frankly, not very accurate. Let me tell you what it actually does. On balance, it defines a very positive role in energy for the federal government. It enhances efficiency, energy efficiency, in areas like building efficiency standards, federal energy management efforts, energy conservation investments by utilities, and the development of new transportation technologies and alternative fuels.

On the supply side, it ensures access to the energy we need to sustain continued growth, growth that is environmentally sound. And we've made a lot of progress on cleaner-burning gasoline over the last few years -- private industry doing a superb job with its own research in this area. And in the bill before the Senate, we've encouraged the use of a whole range of environmentally-sound fuels like ethanol, methanol, electricity, propane, and certainly, encouraging the use of more clean burning natural gas.

We anticipate that the Johnston-Wallop bill will reach the Senate floor hopefully right after the August recess. I would defer to the experts, but that's what we're hoping for. It won't get there -- they've a pretty full calendar before the August recess. The House began mark-up on the bill last week, and we're hoping for the same comprehensive approach there that was achieved in the Senate.

We need Congress to act wisely and, I think, act soon -- and I know these members agree with that -- on this important domestic policy initiative. And we need action on all fronts: to remain world leaders in technology; to protect the environment; to make the most of our domestic resources; and to encourage energy efficiency through incentives for industrial, commercial and private consumers.

Unfortunately, some critics don't seem to see the big picture. They focus on one or two issues that admittedly are controversial. And if I think they're controversial, talk to the senators and congressmen about it, because they get hammered on all sides on these issues. ANWR clearly is one of them.

And let me give you a little history. In 1980, Congress specifically avoided designating part of the coastal plain in Alaska -- the ANWR, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge -- as wilderness. And instead, Congress asked the Interior Department to determine whether the resources of ANWR could be developed without harming the environment.

Well, since then, Interior has conducted or examined more than 170 studies. And time after time, these studies have shown that under strict environmental oversight, ANWR's coastal plain and its resources could, indeed, be developed safely. The wildlife will be protected. John Turner, the Director of Fish and Wildlife, is here today, and he's conducted rigorous studies. The way of life will be protected. And finally, the state of Alaska fully supports ANWR's development.

So I urge the Congress to take a look at these facts, more than 170 studies and the considered opinion of Alaska's own government, and not to be distracted by the critics, many of whom come from the extreme side. There are some that aren't, that just reasonably have doubt, but we cannot let our policy be shaped in this manner. And so please encourage people to take a look at the record.

Of course, all of you are here today because you can make a difference in the energy future of this country. And some people act as if Washington can snap its fingers and impose an energy strategy on the rest of the country. We know that just won't work.

The best part of our strategy is that it does draw upon our greatest resource -- I'd call it a national resource -- and that is the ingenuity of our own people. With their resourcefulness, we can ensure that America in the next century will be energy efficient, environmentally sound and economically strong.

And so I really wanted to come over here today, first of all to say thank you, to salute those members of Congress who are out front and laying it on the line -- it's not without a political downside to any of them -- to stand up courageously for the kind of program that we've talked about here.

And as Bennett, Malcolm and Congressman Sharp will tell you, sure there are differences from time to time, but we're all on the same general track here. And I think it's the right one for our country.

So I want to thank you for your support. And I hope, and I'm right confident looking around this room, that we can count on your continuing support. So thank you all very much for your interest, taking the time from these fantastically busy schedules that everybody around this room has. And we're with you. I'm strongly in support of this program that our able Secretary, Jim Watkins will outline in more detail. And once again, thanks for coming. (Applause.)

END

3:04 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Ankara, Turkey)

For Immediate Release

July 20, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT STATE DINNER

Presidential Palace Garden
Ankara, Turkey

8:35 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. President and Mrs. Ozal and ladies and gentlemen. Let me begin by thanking President Ozal for inviting us over here to see this wonderful country. We were standing outside of Ataturk's tomb this morning, and I couldn't help but think of the parallels between the founder of the modern Turkish Republic -- whose name means "Father of the Turks" -- and the man we Americans call the Father of our Country, George Washington.

Both were great generals; both were great leaders. And both used their words, their times and their opportunities to build great nations. Each knew that to win a war one must secure the peace. And each had a vision for his country's future that, through courage, labor and selfless determination, became the nation's destiny.

And then, as now, we believe in what Ataturk called "peace at home and peace abroad." We know that protecting peace sometimes means being willing to defend it. That's why we've worked together in NATO for close to 40 years. That's why we fought together in the Korean War. And that's why we stood together to reverse the occupation of Kuwait.

There were many people -- many men and women -- responsible for the success of the international coalition and the liberation of Kuwait. But I firmly believe that no one provided greater leadership or clarity of purpose than President Turgut Ozal. I know because we talked together by phone countless times. And he never flinched and he was always courageous and farsighted.

Let me add, sir, that our respect and gratitude certainly extends also to Turkey's military leaders -- the Turkish General Staff -- who displayed uncommon dedication to the coalition's objectives. It was a comfort for all of us in Washington to know that when the United Nations decided to take that step and impose sanctions against Iraq, Turkey would not hesitate to do what was right. I want you to know -- and on this one I speak confidently on behalf of the American people -- that Turkey's role in the Gulf crisis has not, and will not be, forgotten.

Let me also say that we know the cost of your courage. Your Turkey's incurred enormous damage -- especially in the southeast -- from its compliance with U.N. sanctions, its decision to deploy troops, and its generous relief assistance to hundreds of thousands of displaced people camped along its borders.

As we look ahead, let's use the last year as a model of cooperation. As allies, Mr. President, we must expand and deepen our relationship -- we must create a new strategic relationship.

It's been said that great tasks and important missions are accomplished only through cooperative efforts. And that's why I talked today with President Ozal and Prime Minister Yilmaz of strengthening the bonds that link our countries.

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Turkey's genius can advance not only prosperity at home but also peace abroad. So let us build a new future together. A future of peace in the Middle East; a future of peace on Cyprus; and peace between two great countries, Turkey and Greece, led by wise and responsible men. And let us work together to build a U.S.-Turkish relationship with the knowledge that our paths are common, our interests and values are intertwined, and our fate -- as free and democratic peoples -- will be always linked.

Mr. President, let our path be straight and true. Let us achieve the real peace that Ataturk and General Washington dreamt of. And let us enrich this generation -- and all generations to come.

And may I ask all the guests here to join me now in a toast to the health of the President and Mrs. Ozal, and to the great and strong relationship between the United States and Turkey. And thank you, sir, for your hospitality.

(A toast is offered.)

END

8:40 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Athens, Greece)

For Immediate Release

July 18, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

Presidential Palace
Athens, Greece

8:50 P.M. (L)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Well, thank you, Mr. President, not only for that warm welcome today, but for those very kind words. And I simply cannot tell you how happy I am to return to Greece -- "the cradle of democracy" -- at a time in which ancient principles and modern aspirations meet, come together.

Some 25 centuries ago, the democratic idea was born right here in Athens. And you kept that idea alive and inspired our founding fathers to begin the American experiment. And while this year we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our Bill of Rights, you celebrate the 2,500th anniversary of democratic government.

Mr. President, we speak often of democratic principles and individual liberties and the rule of law. And together, we've stood strong so that democracy would survive in Europe. Greece was among the first countries to resist fascism when you fought Mussolini's army in 1940. And you were also the first to stop Soviet expansionism in Europe after World War II.

And now our North Atlantic Alliance supports those same guiding principles, principles that inspire nations all around the world. And today, the human spirit vanguishes the evils of totalitarianism. And the spark of freedom glows brightly in virtually every corner of Europe.

Mr. President, you have played a tremendously important role in preserving the flame of democracy for half a century. And many have stood for democracy, but only a gallant few have risen to the call of reversing autocracy and restoring democratic principles to government and society. And you, sir, are one of those few.

THE PRESIDENT: As a matter of fact, you're unsurpassed in that small, very distinguished group. You fought the forces of evil in the Second World War. You fought communism afterward. And you restored democracy to Greece in 1974. Your success in this profound endeavor was a victory for Greece and for the world.

Mr. President, these are brilliant accomplishments. And we pay tribute this evening to your magnificent record as one of the West's great statesmen.

Thucydides wrote that "the bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet, notwithstanding, go out and meet it." Twice Prime Minister of Greece, and now twice President, you inspire the people of Greece, the people of the United States, and free men and women everywhere.

So ladies and gentlemen, will you please join me in a toast. To the good fortune of President Karamanlis, to the many times throughout history our two countries have inspired and supported each other, and to the deep friendship -- the real and lasting friendship between our peoples. And may God bless Greeks and American peoples as well.

END

8:55 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 10, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The D.C. Convention Center
Washington, D.C.

1:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much for that welcome, and may I thank our marvelous band over there who brought us the music. (Applause.) What a job they always do. (Applause.) And may I, at the outset of these comments, thank those who have served and worked so hard to make this successful event a reality -- Charles Reid, the Chairman of the White House Conference -- (Applause.) I'm glad his family's out there. (Laughter.) Richard Akeroyd, the Cochairman; and Jean Curtis, Joseph Fitzsimmons and all the rest of you out there who have participated in this very active, and, I am told, successful conference. And welcome to all the state delegates out there.

First, let me say I am delighted to be here. I just checked in with the boss of the East Wing of the White House -- that is Barbara Pierce Bush -- (laughter) -- and she, who -- (applause) -- she was just so pleased with the response, and she is so intimately involved in the work of all of you, but of many of you specifically in this room. And I just wanted to say that I appreciate very much your kindness and courtesy to her.

Since presidents seem to get their own libraries -- (laughter) -- goes with the territory -- it's nice not to worry that one of you will try to collect my overdue fines. (Laughter.)

I'm proud of our country's libraries. And, you know, a member of my family wrote a book that's available in most of them. Ironically, Millie is not allowed to get a library card. (Laughter.) And there's a great injustice and discrimination out there. (Laughter.) Incidentally, that book -- it just shows you the power of books. That book, which was written to benefit Barbara's educational foundation -- maybe she mentioned it this morning, I don't know -- but it is raised for that educational cause over \$1,100,000. (Applause.) It shows you the power of books, and the power of what can happen. And I know you all understand what I mean by that.

You know, Franklin Delano Roosevelt once gave his son James some advice that I've always tried to follow; sometimes I fail. To give a good speech, he said, you must "be sincere, you must be brief and be seated." (Laughter.) Well, I promise to do all three, not because I'm not enthralled with the work of the conference, but because tomorrow Barbara and I leave for Maine, where I will be receiving the Japanese Prime Minister -- (applause) -- Kennebunkport contingent over here -- (laughter) -- and receive the Japanese Prime Minister and then go on -- we both head abroad for the G-7 meeting and then on to Greece and Turkey. So you've caught us at the beginning or at the end of a busy week, and the beginning of another one.

But I am glad to be here with you today, because this magnificent event builds upon years of hard work. And let's face it: the world has changed dramatically since the last White House

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Conference on Library and Information Services. The thirst for freedom has swept aside the acceptance of tyranny. New and amazing technologies have made ideas accessible to everyone. Books, faxes, computer disks, television broadcasts have simply shattered the reign of ignorance and created a whole new world of enterprise, competition and, with it, intellectual growth.

So you have come together from across this land to honor a common, exciting dream -- the dream of making this the greatest nation that it can possibly be. (Applause.)

Your poster captures beautifully the essence of this challenge. The background picture of the world emphasizes the fact that we now live in a world united by information highways and joined in productive competition.

The three photographs superimposed over that globe represent your three goals: Literacy, productivity and democracy. An open book, surrounded by other books, reminds us that the quest for the future begins with literacy. And again, with great pride, Barbara has joined many of you, and she has devoted a great deal of time to this fundamental and important cause. Because, you see, she knows and you all know better than most Americans that to open a book is to open the doors of opportunity. Illiteracy bars those doors and it wastes our most precious resource -- our minds.

Second on your poster is a photo of a computer keyboard. Now, I can talk about computers now. (Laughter.) Marginally qualified to talk about computers now. (Laughter and applause.) But seriously, part of our education America 2000 Strategy is that nobody is too old to learn, and I think it's a very important concept. So a couple of months ago I decided to keep up with our grandchildren, not just in Nintendo, but I mean in trying to learn how to run one of these things. So I started taking lessons. And it's amazing -- youngsters understand the technology upon which our future rests, and we've got to rush to catch up with them.

Technology can make us more productive as a society, and information technology arms us with unprecedented power. Our kids will need high-tech skills to compete in the global marketplace of the 21st century. And we already know they have the character: we've seen them create a computer industry out of virtually nothing. And in the Gulf, we've seen them turn these sophisticated weapons into not what some would want us have believe are totally tools of destruction -- in this instance, tools of liberation. And if we want to let our national spirit soar, we must cultivate ideas and knowledge. Perhaps no one will play a bigger role in setting the American spirit aloft than the very people in this room. (Applause.)

You will help us explore and conquer a new electronic frontier. Already, these fiber optic cables carry billions of pieces of information in a wire as thin as a strand of hair. Satellite systems beam information around the world. Computers combine music and video and text for interactive teaching systems, opening up whole new horizons for our fantastic teachers all across this country. And as I look at this, and I expect as you look at it, we recognize that this is just a beginning.

The administration's high performance computing and communications initiative proposes developing a national information network. Now, this network would offer high-speed computing capabilities to research and educational institutions. And it also would give experts the experience necessary to develop a broader, privately-operated national information network. Such an infrastructure would allow all Americans to share quality information and entertainment when and where they want -- and at a reasonable cost.

This amazing beginning equips us to take on the challenge of democracy -- symbolized again in your poster by our Constitution. Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "A democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry." Jefferson knew that education is

not a trivia game -- a contest to acquire little scraps of data. A sound education informs our passion and protects our values, and instills respect for the truth. Information is democracy's greatest and surest weapon -- and our world's greatest and surest hope.

I expect -- well, put it this way -- I know that you don't often get credit as revolutionaries. Too often, people think of the library and information science professionals as people who go around saying, "Shhhhhh!" -- do that for a living. But in fact -- and this is the way we look at it in the Bush family, and I say family advisedly -- Barbara is my anchor to windward in all of this -- you preserve democracy's greatest resource -- the ideas that have helped reshape an entire world. (Applause.)

Earlier this year -- and I hope all are familiar with it -- we introduced a new education strategy. America 2000 we call it. America 2000 isn't another slogan, wrap-around some proposed legislation. 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. And when we say "new generation," we're not just talking about putting a coating of paint on an old way of educating, we're talking about really a revolution in 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.

Libraries and information services stand at the center of this revolution. (Applause.) And today, our more than 15,000 public libraries serve nearly 70 percent of our population, they loan 1.3 billion items each year, and they use less than one percent of our tax dollars. I think you'll agree -- that is quite a bargain. (Applause.) Our libraries serve as the schoolrooms for lifetime learning -- and the launching pads for our future.

All of you involved with this conference have made an invaluable contribution to the progress of American life. And so I look forward to receiving your policy recommendations, and I am committed to working with you to improve our libraries and information networks -- and to carry America 2000 forward. (Applause.)

J. Robert Oppenheimer said it beautifully: "The unrestricted access to knowledge may make a vast, complex, ever more specialized and expert technological world -- nevertheless a world of human community."

So together, I think we will ensure an America of the greatest technological and human success. The potential is limitless. And this is an exciting time to be alive, and I can tell you, I view it as a fantastically exciting time in our history to have the honor of being President of the United States. (Applause.)

So thank you all very much for your part in shaping the future. I don't think you can be a President and live in that magnificent house down the road there without thinking about the future. And to do that, we have to count our blessings for the past. We have to count our blessings for what we call A Thousand Points of Light as well, and that is men and women -- a volunteer commitment, getting out there and helping others and setting standards that the rest of the world admires and respects. And that is where each and every one of you come in.

Thank you, and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

2:04 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 9, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS

The East Room

12:03 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all for coming to the White House. And I'm sure glad we're doing this indoors -- (laughter) -- instead of out. But may I salute Secretary Lujan, a member of our Cabinet. Mr. Frohnmayer, my dear friend who heads this arts effort, and does it most effectively, I might say. Senator Hatch was to be -- right back here, Orrin Hatch. And then, in front of him, Chairman -- our distinguished Senator Claiborne Pell. And Congressman Yates was coming and he is over -- modestly in the back row, along with another Congressman, Ralph Regula there -- but more than welcome. Both champions of the arts, bringing good judgment and balance to the questions that concern us all. So I salute them.

And let me just say how pleased we are to see here the members of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities -- so many corporate patrons without whom the arts would not flourish as much as they do -- and then, of course, especially today, the family and the friends of the honored recipients.

We're delighted to welcome you to this historic East Room. This afternoon, we honor with the National Medal of the Arts a group of men and women whose creative efforts really do capture America's vigor and spirit.

Our artists draw on inspirations and cultures from around the world, but then reinterpret them in distinctive ways, creative ways, American ways. And their passion and their genius and their courage add new dimension to our lives. They remind us of a truth expressed long ago by William Blake, who wrote: "Nations are destroyed or flourish in proportion as their poetry, painting, and music are destroyed or flourish."

And fortunately for us, art in America is alive and well. In all its forms, it captures the exhilarating feeling of being an American -- daring everything, dreaming everything, reaching for everything. And more importantly, it inspires Americans to dare more, dream more and reach further.

Today, we honor several. The honorees express vital emotions and truths. Pearl Primus weaves together dance and anthropology; calls forth the joy and excitement and spiritual vigor of our African and Caribbean heritage. Pietro Belluschi's innovative architectural designs -- they evoke the grandeur of this land, particularly the Pacific Northwest. His works evoke scenes as various as soaring mountain summits and quiet forest floors checkered by slanting sunbeams.

Roy Acuff keeps alive the undying tradition of authentic country music -- and I confess, I love that music. And he has helped make country music -- really he's the father of it, you might say. I don't want to date Roy, but -- (laughter) -- the father, and really has made it what it is today -- a music for all Americans, an art form that doesn't hold back one single thing. And it captures the joys and the aches and the frustrations that most of us feel, but few of us can express.

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In a world where people too often try to reduce life's imponderables to black-and-white entries on a spreadsheet, our award winners provide color and depth and perspective.

Teacher and painter Richard Diebenkorn does not blink from the challenge of expressing himself as he sees fit. In his studio or his classroom, he teaches the importance -- the necessity -- of personal integrity. Honi Coles -- Charles "Honi" Coles's exuberant dance captures the sheer vitality and the joy of the American spirit. And it shows that you can't be fully American without breaking into a sweat and having fun from time to time. (Laughter.)

We often talk of a new world characterized by competition and enterprise, but our kids will not enjoy full lives if they don't experience and appreciate art. A life without art is flat and dull and gray. And it contains none of the highs and lows that give meaning to daily affairs.

Some of our honorees have devoted their careers to ensuring that all Americans enjoy the enriching influence of art.

Maurice Abravanel keeps symphony music popular by conducting and teaching with his Santa Fe Opera. John Crosby gives young American singers the opportunity to train and perform here in their own country. And Isaac Stern -- Barbara demanded to sit next to Isaac Stern -- (laughter) -- expresses the nobility that lies within us all with his heart and that magnificent violin. And just this year, in the middle of a threatened Scud attack -- Scud missile attack in Tel Aviv, he returned to the stage and continued playing. Isaac Stern does more than play an instrument; he inspires us with his virtuosity, his courage and his commitment to humanity.

We also want to recognize benefactors who, through vision and steadfast commitment, keep art alive. American art thrives because of arts administrators like our own J. Carter Brown, who has molded the National Gallery into a museum really for the entire nation. Volunteers enhance our arts: men and women like R. Philips Hanes, Jr., whose generous patronage has guided the regional and national growth of the Arts Council movement. It is unlikely, but Philip will not want to claim that he and I were classmates at college many years ago, but I claim it -- proudly, as a matter of fact. (Laughter.)

We owe a debt to passionate stewards of the arts such as the famed Kitty Carlisle Hart, a distinguished performer committed to making quality art available to all Americans. And artists can continue to develop and flourish, as I mentioned earlier, because of corporate sponsors like Texaco, which has set a standard in corporate philanthropy through its half-century of generous support for the arts.

As we honor these beacons of excellence, I'm reminded of something that President Kennedy once said: "In serving his vision, the artist best serves his nation." And you honorees have all served our nation brilliantly. Thank you. Congratulations. It's a joy to have you here.

And now, I'd simply like to ask John Frohnmayer to assist me in presenting to you these symbols of our nation's gratitude and high esteem. (Applause)

END

12:10 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Grand Rapids, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

July 4, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN FOURTH OF JULY PARADE CELEBRATION

City County Building
Grand Rapids, Michigan

5:41 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. And may I first --

AUDIENCE: USA, USA, USA --

THE PRESIDENT: You're darn right.

AUDIENCE: USA, USA, USA --

THE PRESIDENT: USA. Thank you, Governor Engler, Michelle; and Congressman Paul Henry and Karen; our Mayor who we just heard from, Mayor Helmholtz. And thank you all, all of you, for making Barbara and me feel so at home on this marvelous parade -- 4th of July parade in Grand Rapids. It has been sensational. Thank you. (Applause.)

You know, this is one manifestation of the 4th, and it's very special because of the men and women who served in Desert Storm and Desert Shield and were ready to go -- (applause.) But I think when we hear the words, "4th of July," we think of family -- family at reunions, family at parades like we've just seen, and our American family, united in pride, united in patriotism, and the joy, the sheer joy of living in a great and prosperous land. We are very lucky to call America our home. (Applause.) And I think all those who served in Desert Storm helped us understand important things about ourselves and our country because I think we all realized that we belong to a great family, a fortunate family. As Americans, we share more than a magnificent land: we share values, we share commitments, we share experiences, beliefs and challenges.

Even before the troops returned home, it was the 4th of July in America again. Every one of us -- every one of us feels proud to say, I am an American and I love my country. And let's not be embarrassed to say so. (Applause.)

A couple of months ago I asked every town to make this 4th of July a day of special celebration for our troops. We are here, as the Governor said, to honor our troops -- and the people who have supported them through long nights and tense days. And also, we're here to thank the families and the neighbors and the friends. To every American who wore a yellow ribbon, wrote a letter, or baked a cookie, or said a prayer -- to every American who linked hands and hearts in hopes of helping the men and women who defended freedom overseas, America says, thank you to each and every one of you. You are an integral part of all of this. (Applause.)

I saw a sign on the parade -- something saying, "War is not great." Of course, it's not great. We're not here to glorify war. Tragically, people sometimes must, though, shed blood to defend simple decency and justice. But we must never feel bashful about supporting the values that bind us, or the commitment to freedom that makes America so very special -- a land of dreams; a land revered and now respected by the rest of the entire world. And that's what it's

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all about. (Applause.)

And, look, loved ones did lose ones close to them. And victory does provide no comfort for war's victims. But today we can offer some solace to those whose loved ones fell in defense of principle. We can tell them we want to thank your sons and daughters. We will never forget our fighting men and women of this war -- or of all our wars -- World War I, World War II, Korea, those who fought in Grenada, Panama and the Gulf. And I take special pride today in seeing that in some wonderful and perhaps unseen way, what happened in Desert Storm -- what you guys did -- what happened there brought home long-overdue recognition and honor to those who served us in Vietnam. (Applause.)

So I think today, we celebrate the American character. Just look into the face of any soldier who dug in the desert sands -- or any sailor who stood watch on the dark, distant waters of the Gulf, the airmen -- look into these faces and you'll see the American character. You'll understand the principles upon which this nation was founded are no more abstract than a heartbeat. They form the flesh and blood, the heart and soul of our nation.

I see the American character right here in Grand Rapids. You helped each other through Desert Storm. Your war experience summarized -- in personal and moving ways -- this nation's war experience.

From the beginning, you felt the war up close. Creston High grad Lt. Steven Harper was among the first -- the first pilots in action over Iraq. The war hit home even more closely when your reservists left for the Gulf -- citizen-soldiers from groups like the 180th Army National Guard from Grand Rapids -- (applause) -- and Greenville's 1073rd ANG. (Applause.) And your reservists from the 207th Evacuation Hospital. (Applause.) They helped care for those kids who were wounded in the Scud missile attacks. And I understand that in today's parade are families representing your other reserve unit, Company A, First Battalion of the 24th Marines, which is still deployed overseas. (Applause.) Good, strong, decent men and women, all of them. They make us proud to be Americans. And God bless each and every one of them. (Applause.)

You know, some don't know this, but even the high-tech story of this war unfolded here. Every time we saw a helicopter or jet fighter or M-1 tank -- or saw a tape of a Tomahawk cruise missile or laser-guided bomb -- we saw components produced by hard work right here in the Grand Rapids area. (Applause.)

And, yes, and more somberly, the war inflicted grief here, too. The Edwards family -- Gayle, Bennett, Spencer, Adriane -- we shared your pain when Jack became the first Gulf war casualty buried at Arlington. The entire nation poured out condolences in letters addressed -- simply they came in this way: "Gayle Edwards, Grand Rapids." What a tribute to a courageous family. (Applause.)

And so, for Barbara and me, to walk these streets is to feel the pulse of America. A couple of months ago, thousands of you rallied at Veterans Memorial Park, in a sea of red, white and blue -- and, yes, yellow -- yellow ribbons that joined the nation's hearts, and really, for those of you that were overseas, were unifying the American family. The yellow of the ribbons worn by the kids from Lee High and Middle Schools. The yellow of the lapel pins that your policemen made for this county's officers. The spirit of Grand Rapids is and was the spirit of America. (Applause.)

So in that spirit -- the spirit of brotherhood, devoid of all arrogance and gloating, the spirit of compassion and pride -- let's celebrate this Independence Day. Let's rejoice in the gift of every day being able to live life and pursue happiness in our freedom's first and finest home.

The troops of Desert Storm not only rescued a nation abroad, they transformed a nation at home.

Now let's use our strength and our credibility to take on challenges here at home. We can make our schools the best in the entire world -- and we will. (Applause.) We can restore order to our streets -- and we will. And we can build a society, as the Governor said, in which people who want to work will have opportunities; in which people who seek to build a just society will conquer the divisive forces of prejudice -- and we will build that society. We owe it to the generation to come. (Applause.)

If we didn't know it before Desert Storm, we know now: Nothing can stop us.

So let's all of us -- you and me, your family, our family -- let's make this America the best that it can possibly be.

Listen to the American spirit expressed in a letter to me from a Michigan teacher. Martha Williams -- here's what she wrote: "I try to teach my young people that freedom isn't free -- that its price is dedication to an ideal -- and sometimes its price is sacrifice. My classroom theme is 'answering the call' -- in civilian life as well as military -- in everyday humble contributions as well as heroic, notable efforts."

Well, you know something? Martha's right. The American spirit of service -- service to each other and to good and bright ideals -- made our nation great. It will keep our nation great. And that spirit -- if I take away anything else, it's the feeling that that spirit thrives right here in Grand Rapids. You can see it. You can feel it. You can be proud of it. I know I am.

I am very proud -- and I know I speak confidently for Barbara, which I do not always do -- (laughter) -- when I tell you that we are very proud, indeed, to share this special day.

And now may we say thank you, God bless you all, and God bless this freest, fairest, greatest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you all. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

5:55 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 4, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR
FALASHA DEPARTURE FROM ETHIOPIA

The Rose Garden

3:19 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I am just delighted to see all of you here in the Rose Garden to celebrate a wonderful thing and to honor four people of the many who participated in permitting people to go home. And I have had a chance to express my personal appreciation to Senator Boschwitz and this team of able American diplomats who made possible a humanitarian rescue mission of heroic proportions.

Their efforts set a the stage for an airlift over the weekend of May 24th which brought freedom for one of history's most remarkable people -- the Ethiopian Jews.

As civil war escalated in that country, we worried. This year it grew stronger and prospects for the Falashas' departure to Israel were jeopardized and their future security looked increasingly in question. And I know everybody out here that has talked to me about this and checked in with friends in the administration felt very strongly about that.

In April, as insurgent forces closed in on the capital, I called Rudy Boschwitz. I asked Senator Boschwitz to go to Addis Ababa urgently as a personal emissary of the President to seek to arrange the expedited departure of the Ethiopian Jews. Events since Senator Boschwitz and his team took their trip have unfolded with dazzling speed. And thanks to him and especially to his colleagues here and others who aren't with us today, arrangements were put in place between Israel and Ethiopia for one of the most bold humanitarian airlifts in history. It succeeded -- in less than 24 hours -- in carrying more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to new lives in Israel.

The London Roundtable, chaired by the United States, resulted in a joint declaration by the Ethiopian combatants, who have agreed to organize an all-parties conference to select a transitional government there. We view that decision as a commitment to the democratic process and hope that all Ethiopian political parties and groups in Ethiopia will take advantage of this opportunity to help build a pluralistic future for their country.

As I say for all of us here today, and I think for all the Jews around the world, this is an emotional -- this was an event of emotional proportions. And I just want you to know that I share in that emotional feeling that something wonderful has happened.

So in recognition of his extraordinary efforts to arrange for the evacuation of the Falashas at this crucial moment during this period of dramatic political change in Ethiopia, I am today awarding Senator Boschwitz the Presidential Citizens Medal. And at the same time, I am presenting special awards for exceptional service to the three individuals who made up the Senator's courageous diplomatic team -- and Rudy sings their praises to high heavens for the word they did -- Irvin Hicks, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; Robert Frasure, the Director of the African Affairs here in the White House at the National Security Council; and then one who's not with us today, but is ably represented, Robert Houdek,

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our Charge D'Affaires of our Embassy in Addis, operating under fire, under great pressure, performing admirably. Mrs. Mary Houdek is accepting the award on behalf of her husband who is still in Ethiopia.

And in presenting these awards, I also want to make special mention of someone else, and I'm talking about Assistant Secretary Hank Cohen in his role in this remarkable odyssey.

Operation Solomon represents a culmination for his leadership over the years on this question of the Ethiopian Jews. And all of this occurred at the same time when the Angola Accords were signed, a negotiation in which, as we all know, Hank Cohen played an extraordinarily important role.

I salute the contribution which all of them have made to this tremendous success in removing the Ethiopian Jews from harm's way and reuniting them with their loved ones in Israel. And I also salute your efforts to bring peace and democracy to that country -- to Ethiopia -- a troubled country with which we feel a special kinship in spite of the years of bad relations under the previous regime.

And now it's a privilege and a pleasure to get on with this small awards ceremony, but I think I speak for everybody in the audience when I say we do this with grateful hearts. And now I might ask my military aide, Major Boschwitz -- (laughter) -- Major Boschwitz. (Laughter.) Sorry, Major Bonwit to -- close, Dave -- to read the first citation, if you would, sir.

(The awards are presented.)

END

3:25 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 3, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO GOVERNORS EDUCATION POLICY ADVISORS
AND CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICERS

Indian Treaty Room
Old Executive Office Building

4:45 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: This is what we call in the White House a cameo appearance. In, out. (Laughter.) But we have our new Deputy Secretary, number two in the department, David Kearns here. I want to tell you something about him. He was the former Chief Executive of Xerox, and he comes to this big job, but with a total dedication and commitment to education. And I think it says a wonderful thing to our country that a man with his extraordinary business achievements -- all the time, incidentally, when he was in that job he was constructively engaged in helping our schools and helping education -- but here he is now working hand-in-hand with our very able Secretary, who all of you know and to whom I just once again express my real appreciation for the job he and this fantastic team we've got over there at the Department is doing.

I'm not here, though, to talk about what the center can do for the people. That's not the way we're going to reform education in this country. What I want to do is talk about or just thank you for what you are doing and what we're counting on you to do as we reach out to achieve our national education goals, goals that were established in a totally nonpartisan way by the governors; unanimously adopted by the governors.

Governor Romer was going to come on over here today, Governor Campbell with him on our Education Panels of the Governors Association. But they're actively involved in another meeting which the three of us attended not so many minutes ago. And I say that because they wanted to be here, too. But we're grateful to Governor Romer of Colorado, Governor Carroll Campbell and the others that are participating on the Governors Panel.

Lamar and I were talking -- he said, well, look, remind these people that they're the ones that stand at the center of this crusade to reform the American schools and to reach the six national goals that you all are familiar with, and reach them by the year 2000. It's a strong agenda, a tough agenda in some ways. But all of us are determined that, with your help, we can do it.

So what we talk about in the America 2000 strategy you put into action, and the ideas for implementing a lot of our strategy has got to come from you all and thousands like you across this country. It can't succeed; we cannot dictate from Washington. I am not anti-Washington. I am not antibureacracy. We've got some wonderful people who have given their lives in these departments, but this program, America 2000, cannot succeed if we try to do it from Washington itself.

And so we've got to spread the message. And along those lines I'm going over to Delaware next week -- I think with Lamar; I hope -- to attend a graduation for graduates of an adult education program. One of our goals, as you know, is you're never too old to stop learning. And by going there we hope that this will put some focus on the program -- many of you are already involved in that kind of education -- give a boost to what you're doing, and maybe in the process, get some good ideas as to how we can do it better.

Then the following week, I go by to Colorado and see Governor Romer, who's our chairman really of the governors of this, in the education field, talking about the role of community in education. Once again, community in education, because we simply,

dedicated though I know our people are here, can't get it done without a sense of community. Governor Romer and his colleagues in the Colorado 2000 effort are going to hold meetings in 176 locations across the state in a single night. I don't think he'll be at all of them, but nevertheless -- (laughter.) He's a good man, but not that good.

And that's an impressive effort. I cite it because it builds on this theme of participation that is absolutely essential. And we hope that kind of thing will happen all across the country. And so we've urged all cities and states to take a few simple, common sense steps to get the reform going in whatever way they feel they can be most effective. First, they have to adopt the goals for themselves -- the national education goals. And as some of you know, there may be resistance here and there. But look at them carefully; put them all together, and I think you'll think it's the right approach or the right program for the country.

And the approaches, they may well vary. They have to adopt these goals. They've got to devise a community-wide strategy to meet them; develop a report card system to assess progress towards the goals; and then be willing to create and support a new school.

One of the aspects of this that Lamar has me fired up the most about is citizens and communities starting from scratch -- and we haven't done it well enough yet -- and creating new schools. And hopefully we'll be able, with the effort of David and Lamar, to supplement those efforts with some funds to get these things going in the different states.

But it's a wonderful concept. And some may need longer school terms. Some may want to have varied hours. Some may want different curricula -- whatever it is. But that's the genius of it, the diversity of it. And I think it's an exciting project.

I think you can stimulate the kinds of local activities that you need, that we need, and I know you will. So I really want to say thanks. Lamar told me you all are disproportionately involved for American citizens, so in some ways, I'm singing and preaching to the choir. But the choir can get out there and get others in phase and get them creating.

And of all the things that we're trying to do -- we're trying to clean up the streets, and help with the neighborhoods, and Barbara and I are trying to at least in some tiny way say how important we think family is. And we're trying to deal with the Soviet Union, and all of these things that you have the privilege of doing as President. But there's nothing that I feel more excited about or more -- whose importance I think is priority than this program of America 2000.

So I've told the Secretary that I want to help in every way possible. And I mean it. And Barbara has already, in my view, set a pretty good example in her own way in terms of reading and the emphasis on that, and helping kids. But she's a point of light. You all are points of light. And we're going to do what we should do in terms of legislation and all of that, but I need your help. The country needs your help -- your leaders. And I'm very grateful to those of you who are already out there doing the Lord's work in helping these young kids of ours.

Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

In order to feel that you're never too old to learn, I'm going off to a lecture on Andrew Jackson's presidency. And I expect I'll be better informed when I finish. But I will now turn this podium over to Lamar and to David. And, again, with my sincere thanks to all of you; thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

4:53 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 17, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRESIDENT VIOLETA CHAMORRO
OF NICARAGUA DURING ARRIVAL CEREMONY

The South Lawn

10:15 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: It gives me great pleasure to welcome to the United States a woman of courage, a leader of conviction, a person of morality and vision: Mrs. Violeta Chamorro, President of Nicaragua. (Applause.)

We stand here at the White House almost a year to the day after the extraordinary moment when you stood at Managua's National Stadium to be sworn in as your nation's first freely-elected president.

What a moment that was. In you we saw the exhilarating victory of democracy, of that glorious new breeze that, in one amazing year, swept out oppression and dictatorship, from Prague to Managua. In you we saw your nation's peacemaker, the person who would close the books on 11 years of cruel civil war.

In you we saw the symbol of national reconciliation with the inner strength and resolve to turn the face of your country toward the path of healing.

In you we saw what your countrymen saw when they cast their ballots in their first fair, open election. We all saw the person who inspired her people to believe in the triumphant return of peace and freedom.

On that Inauguration Day we saw Dona Violeta, candidate of compassion, become President Chamorro, leader of reconciliation. On that day you closed a painful chapter in your nation's history; and you began to forge a new one. The beautiful land of Ruben Dario had been exhausted by strife, embittered by repression, polarized by government attempts to dominate every single aspect of society, impoverished by a cynical and mismanaged regime.

But you are the leader who once said: "As a mother, I feel with great intensity the obligation to teach while governing and to govern while forming peaceful hearts." And you've begun to bring life and dreams back to your people in your "mission to help them." As you call it, "mission to help them." Your courageous countrymen are showing that they are ready to dig in and work hard to reap the benefits of free government and free enterprise.

Following the course of your slogan: "Yes, we can change things," your reforms are realistic. Restoration of democratic liberties, religious freedom, economic reconstruction, free market opportunities, reallocation of military funds to vital economic and social programs and reincorporation of former combatants and refugees.

But your reforms are also visionary. The restoration of moral values and human dignity. The importance of an inheritance for your children of reconciliation and respect. And the belief in the goodness of a people that still turns for guidance to its patron Saint, La Purisima.

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And your reforms, your "new sun of justice and freedom" bring hope to the watching world. For with the democratization of Nicaragua, we are one crucial step closer to the incredible goal of becoming this world's first fully democratic hemisphere.

We know that the tasks facing the Nicaraguan people are difficult. Your economic stabilization plan requires hard choices. Economic reform after years of mismanagement is never easy and presents challenges to leadership. But sacrifice in the short run is vital to achieve long-term growth and development. And we hope that all elements of Nicaraguan society will work with you for the good of your country.

The Nicaraguan people do not stand friendless and alone to face these challenges. We are confident that as you confront them, all Nicaraguans will enjoy renewed and widely shared prosperity.

Dona Violeta, I am proud to stand with you -- and our nation is proud to stand by you. We're offering over \$500 million in aid over your first two years as President. And we've joined with other developed countries to work with the international financial institutions to help Nicaragua. And beyond aid, we're offering opportunities for trade and investment that will benefit both our countries through the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative.

And most of all, we're offering something from our hearts to your proud country -- your blue and white Nicaragua where, as your National Anthem says, "the voice of the cannon no longer roars." We are offering you our respect, our admiration, and our friendship.

As your nation renews itself under your leadership, the world shares the view of Nicaraguan poet Pablo Antonio Cuadra, who wrote about your late husband, Pedro Joaquin -- who was tragically assassinated for the pure passion of his political idealism. Cuadra said of you: "Pedro's flag could not be in better hands."

Madam President, your nation is fortunate to have you as a leader. I am proud to have you as a friend. We salute you. And may God Bless you and your proud and courageous land. And welcome to the United States. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT CHAMORRO: President Bush, my good friend; Mrs. Barbara Bush, my good friend, also; ladies and gentlemen. Many years have elapsed since the President of Nicaragua has made a state visit to the White House.

It is a great honor for me to be here with you this morning, for it represents the establishment of a new and precious relationship between our two nations.

The genuine friendship extended by a noble country such as the United States deserves in turn the friendship of democratic governments that respect the rights of their people. For only in this manner can there exist a sincere relationship between both nations.

As we meet today, Mr. President, it is our responsibility as leaders of two democratic nations to begin fertilizing the seed of a new friendship, a friendship based on our shared belief in democracy and mutual respect.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the people and government of the United States of America for the assistance they have provided to Nicaragua. That assistance was a decisive factor during my first year in office. And now, Nicaragua has begun to recover from the years of political instability and continuous conflict.

I must conclude by reiterating my government's firm commitment to the sacred principles of democracy shared by our peoples. This commitment is, and will continue to be, to work

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towards consolidating peace, strengthening our democratic institutions, respecting human rights and putting our economy in order.

I shall work toward achieving this goal without wavering, because I have adopted as my own those universal truths which Abraham Lincoln bequeathed to mankind: "A government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

God bless and protect the peoples and governments of the United States and Nicaragua. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

10:27 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Ludwigshafen, Germany)

For Immediate Release

November 18, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT SPEYER TOWN WELCOME

Speyer Town Square
Speyer, Germany

12:50 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Chancellor Kohl. And I'm delighted to be back in the Rhine Country in the beautiful village of Speyer. (Applause.) To be with your great Chancellor, and most of all, to be the first American President to visit the new Germany. (Applause.) It is also a sign of the times that just a week ago the Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev walked your streets, saw your majestic cathedral and joined with you in the celebration of German unity. (Applause.)

When we were here last year, Germans still lived in two societies: one free and one oppressed; one alive, the other frozen in tyranny. Two very different governments, but one people; one Germany.

In May of 1989, I talked to the citizens of Mainz. And on that day, we spoke not only of our mutual defense, but of our shared values; not just of the matters of the mind, but of the deeper aspirations of the heart. And we heard the call for a common European home, but insisted on another home -- one in which all within would be free to move from room to room, free to enjoy their right of self-determination. (Applause.)

I will never forget November 1989 when word came from Berlin: the Wall has been breached. And soon the world was transfixed by startling images, scenes of celebration and triumph as thousands of Germans joined hands across a mass of concrete that had divided your nation for far too long. That was an exciting moment and I'm delighted today to celebrate that moment in the home area of the first Chancellor of this new Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the man who united Germany. (Applause.)

I'm also here because the unification of Germany is not just cause for celebration by one people. It's a cause for celebration for all who love freedom. And let me just tell you, no people on Earth are more thrilled by your achievement than your friends in America. (Applause.)

I see the rains are coming. (Laughter.) So I will conclude, mercifully, by saying thank you to all the citizens of this marvelous part of Germany. Thank you for this warm welcome for Barbara and me, and I say, symbolically for the United States of America. (Applause.) And thank you, Chancellor, for your words about standing together in the face of tyranny, standing together to see that aggression will not pay in this world. (Applause.) God bless the people of a united Germany. Thank you. God bless each and every one of you. Thank you for this warm hospitality. (Applause.) Good Luck.

END

12:56 P.M. (L)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)

For Immediate Release

September 18, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT WILSON FOR GOVERNOR FUNDRAISING DINNER

The Westin Bonaventure Hotel
Los Angeles, California

7:46 P.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Pete and Gayle. Pete, thank you for that welcome. And all of you. And to Assemblyman Ross and Diane Johnson, Senator Marian Bergeson and Garth, Councilwoman Joan Milke-Flores, Matt and Paula Fong down here, and our state chairman, Frank Visco; of course, Dan and Bobby Lundgren; and Chuck Heston, my friend here; Tom and Mary Hayes; and Johnny Grant. What a wonderful turnout. Thank all of you.

Robby Britt -- that was an inspiring rendition of The National Anthem. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

Let me convey the apologies of a very close member of my family who couldn't make it tonight. As it turns out, Millie is back East, promoting her new book. (Laughter.) Her celebrity status has gone to her head. (Laughter.) I gave her a bowl of Alpo and she asked to see the wine list. (Laughter.)

I'm sorry that our national fitness czar, Arnold Schwarzenegger, could not be with us tonight. You know, he wanted to entertain the troops in Saudi Arabia, but we had to put him down, say no. It turned out they didn't think it was very entertaining to watch a guy bench-press an M-1 tank. (Laughter.) But we do have another czar with us tonight, and that is our Drug Czar Bill Bennett, who flew in with me today on Air Force One. (Applause.)

Bill's bringing his tough and fearless leadership to our national war against the scourge of drugs. A few days ago, there at the White House, he and I gave a one-year update on our National Drug Strategy. And we both feel that in many ways we are, indeed, making significant progress, and that's due to the tireless fight that Bill and so many communities and so many police forces -- including the one right here, the L.A.P.D. -- are making, waging against drugs. And we're grateful to you, Bill, and we're grateful to the citizens out here from whatever walk of life that are participating in this war against drugs. (Applause.) We owe him a vote of thanks. And, again, all of the volunteers that are pitching in.

Let me say it is great to be back with so many good friends, back here in this Golden State. You know, the people who came to California wouldn't stop looking for gold and glory until the trail stopped at the edge of the Pacific. That's why this state is a place where the dreamers are the doers and why California is leading America into the future. And I can't think of anyone better qualified to lead California into that future than your next governor -- Pete Wilson. (Applause.)

I will say I am very sorry that Barbara's not with us tonight, but she thinks the world of Gayle, just as I do. And both of us are strongly in your corner as you go down to the stretch.

I'll have a lot to say tonight about Pete and the

Republican future in California. But first, let me just speak of two matters that are critical to the future of America and the world.

A week ago tonight, I went before the Congress and the American people to discuss two urgent, yet interrelated matters -- the aggression in the Middle East -- and, Rabbi, thank you for your overly generous comments, sir -- and the federal budget deficit.

Even before the Persian Gulf crisis, we were already more economically vulnerable than we should ever be, especially with a projected federal deficit of \$232 billion. So I told the Congress, and I know that Pete Wilson agrees, that we must address our budget deficit -- not in 1991 or '92, but right now.

We need a budget agreement that meets four basic tests. It must include measures to increase economic growth and cut our national dependence on foreign oil. It must be fair. Everyone should be called upon to make a sacrifice, but no one should bear the burden alone.

A budget agreement should address the growth of the government's hidden liabilities and it must reform the budget process. And one thing more: We can cut this budget without hurting the economy. Without another phoney-baloney plan. With an agreement that is credible, real and enforceable -- one that will save America half a trillion dollars in five years. (Applause.)

I also told the Congress that if America remains strong at home, America can continue, and will continue, to lead abroad. But there's another component of American leadership that has no price tag -- none at all -- and I'm talking about the men and women who are serving this country in the Persian Gulf.

America is a mighty nation. But we are a great nation only because of those who are ready to leave the comfort of their homes in Oceanside or San Bernardino to serve on the front line halfway around the world in defense of freedom. (Applause.) America is great because its courage is great.

And we all wish their job was done, but we know that it's not. Certain objectives must be met. Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait without condition. (Applause.) Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. And American citizens abroad must be protected. (Applause.)

These objectives are not ours alone. They've been endorsed by the United Nations Security Council six times in seven weeks. And let me note the good news from our allies. West Germany has pledged to support the mission with almost \$2 billion, and provide transport ships and planes. Japan has now pledged a package worth \$4 billion. France has added another 4,000 troops. And Great Britain has sent 120 tanks, 6,000 troops, the famous Desert Rats that some of us remember from World War II. It is truly then Iraq against the world.

We've also put tight sanctions into effect, while working with the United Nations Security Council to allow food to reach innocent children, mothers, the sick and the elderly. And we've been working with many nations to get relief to the most pitiful victims of this conflict -- I'm talking about those thousands and hundreds of thousands of refugees. Those that can afford it the least, humbled in the desert outside of -- off the Iraq border.

I spoke of our four objectives. But we have another, final objective. And that is to create a new partnership of nations. A new world order, freer from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice, more secure in the quest for peace. (Applause.)

The international community has already taken a giant step toward that day. Together with our friends and allies, ships of the the United States Navy are patrolling the Mideast waters.

already intercepted more than 700 ships to enforce these sanctions against Iraq. And the world is simply telling Saddam Hussein, we will not give in to intimidation.

On matters like these, we are called upon to put country before self, and patriotism before party. And so it's good that politics now are stopping at the water's edge; but that still leaves a lot of America in between. And from Long Beach to Long Island, we should, and we will vigorously campaign right up to the November election. (Applause.) And for those of us at home, we can serve our country by being the best candidates, the best citizens, and, yes, the best Republicans and Democrats we can be.

I am sure every Democrat agrees -- we will not allow our political life to be held hostage to a crisis. When Californians go to the polls, absentee ballots will be coming in from Americans in uniform, including those stationed in the Persian Gulf region. And if our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines can find time to vote under such difficult circumstances, surely those of us at home will do our civic duty as well. (Applause.)

Just a few moments ago I spoke of international intimidation. Well, it does Americans no good to stop aggression abroad if bullies take over the streets at home. As a former U.S. Marine, as a Senate leader in foreign policy and defense, Pete Wilson understands the need to repel, stand up against, aggression abroad.

But he also understands the need to repel aggression at home. Let me tell you a story that means a lot to him, about an immigrant from Ireland named Michael Callahan, who came to these shores to find peace and prosperity. Michael Callahan moved to Chicago, started a family, worked hard, and rose to the rank of detective sergeant on the city police force. And then one evening, while on duty, Sergeant Callahan tried to arrest two cocaine dealers. They drew their guns first. And although Callahan managed to shoot one of the dealers, the other one shot him. Sergeant Callahan died in Chicago at the age of 30, fighting the first wave of cocaine to sweep America. But that was not in 1990 or 1980. Michael Callahan died fighting cocaine in 1908. And his grandson, Pete Wilson, is with us tonight. (Applause.)

So when your Senator says we need to protect the public and the police from cop killers and kingpins, and when he says that those who deal in death should reap what they sow, you can be sure Pete Wilson means business. (Applause.)

And I share his sense of mission. On a rain soaked morning in May of 1989, surrounded by hundreds of law-enforcement officers at the foot of the Capitol, I called on Congress to pass a tough crime bill to build on what our Attorney General here tonight, Bill -- William French Smith -- worked on. To build on what my predecessor, Ronald Reagan, worked on and tried to accomplish. We put forward a new program. And now 16 months have now gone by. And despite the leadership of Pete Wilson and others in the Senate, the House Democratic leadership has gone off into deep left field. And even worse, several measures receiving serious consideration in the House last week would actually weaken law enforcement; would actually make our cities and our streets less safe than they are now. And such a bill will stop at my desk. It will not become law. I'll guarantee you that. (Applause.)

Pete Wilson and I want a crime bill that will stop the abuse of habeas corpus. A bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons will face serious weapons charges and serious time. A bill that guarantees that evidence gathered by good cops acting in good faith isn't barred by technicalities that let bad people go free. (Applause.)

I cannot sign a bill that overturns Supreme Court decisions limiting frivolous habeas corpus petitions, expands the coverage of the exclusionary rule, and weakens capital punishment. And I will not sign a bill that handcuffs the police officers all

across the United States of America. (Applause.)

But if some in the House have been an obstacle to tougher laws, Pete Wilson has been an advantage in the Senate. He played a key role in passing the death penalty provisions of the 1988 Antidrug Act; one that allows capital punishment for the murder of a law enforcement officer working on a drug-related case.

And Pete says, "I will not have California under seige to rapists and thugs and drug dealers." He wants to govern a California where women need no longer fear the night, because drug dealers and criminals will instead fear the law. And he would start by extending capital punishment in California to major drug traffickers, the same as my proposals before the United States Congress. (Applause.)

And so, thus, I have to ask: Is it any wonder that the endorsement of a dozen law enforcement organizations has gone to the grandson of Michael Callahan?

Pete, we need you to continue the work in this anticrime field. (Applause.)

Tomorrow in San Francisco, I'll speak of Pete Wilson's fiscal philosophy and especially of his long-standing environmental leadership. He is, and always has been, a conservative. But Pete Wilson also is, and always has been, an activist who wants to use government creatively to improve our quality of life.

And this balanced approach is the key to his success as a legislator in Washington and Sacramento, and as Mayor of San Diego. It was as Mayor that Pete first showed a flair for executive leadership. And now he seeks the largest executive job in America, second only to my own. And he faces a California skeptical of all rhetoric, impressed only by action. But he's faced the voters before, retaining a Senate seat that six predecessors lost. He broke the jinx and made history because he delivers on his promises. (Applause.)

And now Pete says, "If the voters think I'll be more useful as a governor than as a member of the U.S. Senate, then that's what I'll be." Well, all of us here know that filling the governorship after George Deukemejian is not going to be easy. But all of us here know that if there's anyone that can do it, it is Pete Wilson. And I am very proud to be here for him. He should be the Governor. And that is what he must be -- Governor Pete Wilson of California. (Applause.)

Thank you for your support. Keep it up. And God bless the United States. (Applause.)

END

8:07 P.M. PDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 17, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE CEREMONY FOR WINNERS OF THE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The South Lawn

3:36 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, and welcome to the White House lawn on this beautiful fall day. We're delighted to have you all here. And thank you, Secretary Cavazos, and thank you especially for your leadership in keeping education at the very top of our national agenda. And special welcome to the governors who are with us today, and those who participated in last year's economic summit. I'm so glad that this many are here. And I want to greet Governor Campbell, and Governor Casey, Governor Perpich, Governor Schaefer; and I'm just delighted they are here. Will you all stand up, please, and have a welcome from the crowd here? (Applause.)

And also with us today is Gil Grosvenor, a great friend of ours, friend of education, President of the National Geographic Society to whom we are indebted for the distribution of this pro-education poster. Gil, thank you very much to you and your associates. (Applause.) And a special welcome to all of you, our special guests. You know, Barbara's here. I happen to think with some husbandly pride that she's doing a remarkable job for education. (Applause.)

She's just finished a reception inside for her new radio program: Barbara Bush Story Time. It's going to be kind of like Fiorello LaGuardia for you old-timers -- (laughter) -- used to do this. There's a slight complication on this, however, because attending that reception, and with us today, is Bob Saggett of America's Funniest Home Videos. Is he over there somewhere? (Applause.) Bob, you're welcome to stay, but your act is over there in the press room; that's where you ought to be to get your material. (Laughter.) Thank you very much for joining us today.

I'm honored to welcome the representatives of the 221 elementary schools chosen this year as winners in our School Recognition Program. Each of your schools is as diverse as this great country. They are public and private, they range in size from 170 to 1,400 pupils. They serve children from scarcely-populated rural areas to some of our largest cities. But you all have something important in common: your success and achievement -- ideals to which the other schools across the breadth of this nation can look for inspiration.

This year's winners were judged on the quality of the education they provide, their students' achievements and attitude, and their teachers' and administrators' leadership. But perhaps the most important criteria was a sense of shared purpose among faculty, students, parents, and then the entire community.

These schools share a vision of hope that they can foster the full potential and development of each child and, by doing that, help make this a better nation and a better world.

However, those higher goals may have been lost on some of the youngest winners. I understand that when one first-grader from Colwyn Elementary School told her parents about her principal being honored, she exclaimed: "Sister Mary won the Academy Award?"

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(Laughter.)

We're here today not only to salute these individual schools, but also to restate our commitment as a nation to education. (Applause.) For our democracy can remain vital only if our people continue to grow in knowledge and wisdom; facing each new choice with an increased understanding of the complex and competitive world in which we live. And we must realize that education is the key to our future, to our identity as a nation, and to our very soul as a people.

I came to this job believing that America can and must have a restructured and revitalized education system to enable us to compete successfully in the world; and to empower each citizen to achieve his or her fullest potential. After all, education is our most enduring legacy, vital to everything we are and everything we can become.

We're celebrating an important anniversary here. One year ago this month, we held the President's Education Summit with the governors. In fact, my first stop after the summit was right here where I spoke to last year's winner of this prestigious award. And the summit itself grew out of our pledge to lead a national effort toward a renaissance of excellence in American schools. As a result of this historic event, involving the nation's governors and our Cabinet, we emerged with a sense of direction for individual and collective efforts to improve the quality of education for all. For the first time, Americans now have a clear sense of direction toward national education.

With the invaluable cooperation of teachers, and parents, and community leaders, and a variety of educators, and working with the governors at the beginning of this year, I announced our six education goals to be met by the year 2000. Absolutely essential goals that recognize education as a lifelong enterprise. And I want to repeat them now, because they must become so familiar that they seem woven into the fabric of our lives.

First, by the year 2000, all children in America must start school ready to learn. And second, the high school graduation rate must increase to at least 90 percent. And third, American students must be competent in five critical subjects with their progress measured in grades four, eight and twelve.

Fourth, our students must be first in the world in science and math. And fifth, every adult American must be able to read. And finally, every one of our schools must be safe, disciplined, and drug-free. (Applause.)

I am very pleased today to be able to unveil a wonderful poster displaying these important goals that have been produced, as I said earlier, by the National Geographic Society; and it will be sent to every single school in the nation. National Geographic has joined the fight to ensure a first-class education for every American child. And once again, Gil Grosvenor, we are very, very grateful to you and your associates over there. (Applause.)

And I'm grateful to you two for holding that up in the wind. (Laughter.) You're doing a first-class job there, Marcus and Jennifer.

You know, in this past year since our summit, as we've turned our attention to the formidable task of ensuring that these goals are attained, we've seen an extraordinary response, as reform took off across our nation. And one of the most important reforms sweeping our great country is educational choice; empowering parents to get involved in their children's education. Today, with us -- and I spot her right down here -- is Polly Williams, a courageous leader who brought choice to Milwaukee, Wisconsin's school. Polly, would you please stand up, too? (Applause.)

And it's teamwork that's engendering this inspiring success -- an extraordinarily constructive partnership between the federal level, the governors of our states and territories. Showing our administration-wide commitment to educational excellence, we've also begun exciting programs involving all of the Cabinet departments.

Today, I issue a challenge to every American to join us. Step forward in your own way to respond to one of the most crucial issues that we face. And students, set your sights and your personal goals high, so that your future can match your finest dreams.

Educators, you're engaged in noble, terribly important work. And we congratulate you, and look forward to your continuing dedication to American educational excellence. And then to parents, we urge you to become more involved -- more involved in your children's education. And lastly, to the communities, we've made great leaps in getting communities more engaged. The governors have done a sensational job going to the communities getting them more engaged in local-level action, too. But we need more.

All of us must commit ourselves fully now. Right now. And America, really on this one, can't afford to wait -- or waste -- a generation. To all of you, as we look ahead to our goals and to the year 2000, let's answer the call: "Let tomorrow begin today."

Congratulations to all of you. Thank you for interest in education. Thank you for caring about our kids. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

3:45 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

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

For Immediate Release

July 24, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NEW YORK REPUBLICAN PARTY

Waldorf Astoria Hotel
New York, New York

7:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Thank you so much, Senator. And let me say how very pleased I am to be here. A salute first to Senator D'Amato who's doing such a superb job in Washington. (Applause.) He and I have to leave before the broccoli to get back to -- (laughter) -- get back down there, so I hope you'll excuse us. But let me salute my old friend, the Borough President. Mr. President, we're proud of you, Guy Molinari. (Applause.) And, of course, our Senate Leader, Ralph Marino. I just met with him and we talked about the importance of keeping control of this Senate, given the significance of redistricting coming up.

It is absolutely essential, and thus I want to thank everybody that has helped in this dinner. It is key that Ralph continue to run the Senate on the Republican side. We've got to keep control of it. (Applause.) And I expect because of his responsibilities as head of this whole campaign for the Senate, Guy Valella, over here, knows that he's got some big shoes to fill, too -- big responsibilities. Rapp, it's good to see you again -- Rapp Rappleyea, the leader over here on our -- I wish we had some more troops for him, and maybe we will out of this selection on the assembly.

I want to salute our able Party Chairman, Pat Barrett, a man whose given up an awful lot to lead our troops. (Applause.) And my old friend, Dick Rosenbaum, the National Committeeman. (Applause.) Comptroller Ned Regan, and Bernard Smith, running here. Is it okay to mention my brother John? Okay. All right. (Applause.) And I'm going to be in real trouble, but Rita -- Rita DiMartino. I see her all over the place. She's like Batman -- she's everywhere. And Joe Mondello and many other leaders -- I'm very, very pleased to be here. (Applause.) I want to single out two, however, who deserve our support. They have mine, and they are going to surprise a lot of people. Pierre Rinfret for Governor, and Geoff Yancey. (Applause.) We need them. They're a good team. They've got great families.

You know, for two years, when I was Ambassador to the U.N., Barbara and I lived up here, in this -- rough living here in this very hotel, room 42 A. And whenever I complained about anything, the Silver Fox would roll her eyes and say: "Just where do you think we live? The Waldorf Astoria?" Well, here we are back again, and I'm pleased to be here. And I understand that New York has been selected as the site of a very important event in 1992 -- a convention that will attract thousands of participants from all over the country -- people who hope to put their past setbacks behind them and plan a winning strategy for future. That's right -- the first reunion of all the ex-managers of the New York Yankees will be held right here in New York City. (Laughter and applause.)

Then there's another -- the other future New York convention -- the Democrats'. Let me say that my hand is still extended to them when it comes to working for the good of the nation. I look forward to the Senate hearings of David Souter; I am sure that they will find him to be tough, but fair. He's a first-rate appellate judge, an outstanding jurist and a great legal mind. And I

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am delighted that he is the nominee for the Supreme Court.
(Applause.)

Many Democrats in Washington have supported me in meeting this fantastic era of change abroad that Al D'Amato so generously referred to, are working with me now to pass the first revision of the Clean Air Act in more than 13 years -- tougher standards to cut down on acid rain and other air pollutants. And they worked with me so I could sign into law a bill ending discrimination against disabled Americans. So tough negotiations can get results. I see Amory Houghton out here, and he and other congressmen on the Republican side know this. They're in the minority, but they're working hard. Tough negotiations can get results. But differences between the parties are still broad and they're still deep, and much remains to be done -- too much. With more Republicans in Washington and in Albany, think of how much more we can achieve.

In New York, we face a tremendous opportunity to fight the Democrat gerrymander -- an opportunity to end discrimination against voters by race and by party. That is our mission this November -- (applause) -- that is our mission, and it is one that transcends mere politics because we're deeply concerned about the future of this great state.

To coin a phrase, we love New York, all of New York, from the oak-lined avenues of Long Island, to Yankee Stadium, to Broadway. From the city streets of Buffalo, to the New York of farm towns and the Adirondacks -- New York is a city of lights, a state of grandeur, a place where dreams come true. It certainly is for me -- after all, New York is where Barbara Bush was born, and she's doing pretty darn well. (Applause.)

But we are concerned for the future, because New York has become something else -- it's become a showcase of liberal policies. And after 16 years of dominance by liberal Democrats, it's time to judge the results.

For 92 months, America has enjoyed peacetime economic expansion and the creation of more than 22 million jobs. But not all the benefits of those years were enjoyed by the people of New York State. Throughout the 1980s, while most of America was growing and looking forward to the future, life in New York -- especially in the City -- was becoming more expensive, more difficult and more dangerous, regrettably, than ever before.

Liberal Democrats blame every problem on Republican policies, especially Republican economic policies. But in the late '70s, a large airline centered in New York didn't go out of business. It just decided to move south, to Texas, taking more than a thousand jobs with it. And in 1987, a large energy corporation based in New York didn't go out of business. It just decided to move south to Virginia, taking 3,600 jobs with it. In fact, since 1983, almost a third of the Fortune 500 corporations based here have chosen to leave.

Now, New Yorkers want a change. New Yorkers want the companies and the good jobs they represent to stay -- right here in New York. And New Yorkers want an end to open-air drug marts and these muggings. And New Yorkers want -- (applause) -- and New Yorkers want a government that empowers people -- not bureaucracies. (Applause.)

Twenty-nine out of the last 35 years of Democratic dominance in Congress have also taken their toll. Only a President carries a national mandate.

But like Republicans before me, I know that to deal with a Democrat Congress is to often face government by gridlock -- with spending skyrocketing out of control, good legislation thrown aside for pork, and a budget deficit looming over our children's children.

It is time we asked the American people to end the

MORE

gridlock. To choose the liberal mindset of the Democratic Party or to choose our path -- the Republican path of opportunity and growth. To empower government to run their lives, or to empower people to run their lives for themselves. Time to ask America to choose. (Applause.)

Here in New York, you must choose a governor. And let it be a Republican governor -- Pierre Rinfret. Here's a family man -- I hope you've all met his family -- a decorated war hero, a successful entrepreneur who pulled himself out of Hell's Kitchen, and wants to lead others out of poverty. And some say maybe he's not be a politician. Well, he may not be a politician, but maybe New York doesn't need another politician. Maybe New York needs a change right now. (Applause.) So, Pierre, we are all for you -- you and your ticket -- best of luck. (Applause.)

You know, New York faces another choice: to keep your outstanding Senate Leader Ralph Marino and his colleagues as your prime line of defense against a liberal governor and his assembly. Republicans, you see, like what works. And that's why your Republican Senate has been -- and will remain -- your watchdog against big spenders. And, more, a sane proponent of what works.

So be thankful that your Republicans in the Senate forced a spending cap, forced baseline budgeting. It is the Republicans in the New York Senate who managed to trim \$1.5 billion in Democratic spending proposals. (Applause.) They know you can't trust a party that would double the fare of the Staten Island Ferry. (Laughter.) And kidding aside, think of what these Republicans would achieve if they could work with a Republican governor in a Republican assembly.

Jobs and spending are important. But safe streets are of equal concern, especially in a city that lives in fear. And that's why New York agrees with us: those violent criminals deserve nothing less than punishment, swift and sure. (Applause.)

So Republicans are united in wanting to change lenient, blame-the-victim laws -- liberal Democrats don't want to change these laws. (Applause.) Republicans want to allow the women of this state to be able to defend themselves with MACE, and liberal Democrats don't. (Applause.) And Republicans -- and this is a big one nationally -- Republicans want murderers and drug kingpins to pay the ultimate penalty and liberal Democrats don't. (Applause.)

In Washington, we argue that those who sell drugs are selling death. And we propose that drug kingpins reap what they sow. But our crime bill faces another obstacle. Fifteen months ago, I stood before the U.S. Capitol and announced America's determination to take back the streets.

The Senate has now cleared a crime bill -- Al D'Amato fighting for it -- a major new package, 423 days after I proposed it. It's not a perfect bill. It does nothing to ensure that evidence gathered by good, decent policemen acting in good faith isn't barred by technicalities that let bad people go free. But this bill will go a long way toward toughening sentences for violent crime, and reducing repetitive appeals.

Now this legislation is over in the House side now, before the House. And let us tell the members of the House, 423 days is long enough. Don't keep our men and women in blue waiting. Pass a tough bill, and pass it soon. (Applause.)

Let me give you another example of how a liberal Congress, long in power, jealously clings to the failed policies of the past. In April of last year, our Administration asked Congress to pass the Education Excellence Act -- reform proposals to reward achievement and allow educational choice. And yet Congress killed many of these sensible and cost-effective proposals. And then they doubled our request with hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of unnecessary, unrelated and costly changes.

If liberal Democrats should have learned anything, it is that you cannot reform an education system by throwing billions of dollars at it. So when is it going to penetrate liberal thinking that we shouldn't throw money at an ineffective education system that is already the most expensive in the entire industrialized world? When are they going to start demanding results and stop measuring the value of a program by the size of its price tag? And when are they going to stop blocking genuine, much-needed reform? (Applause.)

Where the liberal mindset dominates, the net result has been the same: Bad schools, dangerous streets, big deficits. Of course, times can change, and I hope they do. As you know, I met this morning, and will meet every morning this week, with the congressional leadership, the Speaker and the Democratic leader and the minority leader on the House side, and the two Senate leaders, one Republican, one Democrat on the Senate -- met to work for an agreement to lower our federal deficit.

We all know that the Democrats have a long track record on spending. But if the Berlin Wall could come down in the same year that America goes nuts over the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, who knows what could happen next? (Applause.)

And again, times can change. The leaders of Congress can work with me to break the impasse on reducing the budget deficit. And I think they are trying. I've saluted Dick Gephardt and I'll do it here again tonight. I believe he's trying hard. He's the one that has to lead this enormously diverse group into trying to get a deal. The spotlight is on both sides to place progress over partisanship and the national interest over special interest. I welcome sincere efforts from both sides of the aisle, and I'm eager to get an agreement with congressional leaders to achieve meaningful budget reform. And this is my hope. But as long as the liberal mindset dominates, we will be forced to measure our successes in catastrophes averted and calamities mitigated.

The genius of the American system is that it allows for checks and balances. But this doesn't mean that the voters must choose political stalemate, year after year, decade after decade. So let me be blunt: Divided government just isn't good enough, for America or for New York. We must have more Republicans up there in Albany and in Washington. And I think it's time to ask the American people to let us show what we can do without the albatross of liberal legislatures. It's time to ask America to choose.

As we go into the 1990 election season, remember an adage from a great Republican governor of New York, and a great President. Theodore Roosevelt said: "In life, as in a football game, the principle to follow is: Hit the line hard." The choice is clear: Republican reform or the Democratic status quo. And when we present the people with this stark choice, rest assured -- we will hit the line hard in November.

Thank you for all you have done to help this party. We are pledged to be in there supporting Pierre Rinfret and the rest of the ticket. May God bless you, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much.

END.

8:09 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Billings, Montana)

For Immediate Release

July 20, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT ANTIDRUG RALLY

Daylis Stadium
Billings, Montana

9:10 A.M. MDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you for that warm welcome on this cool day. And thank you, Governor. I am so very happy that so many of you could join us this morning in this Daylis Stadium -- home of the Big Sky State Games. Cycling, golf, handball, shooting, swimming, tennis, -- (applause) -- track and field -- sounds like a weekend at Camp David. (Laughter.) How come no horseshoes around here? (Laughter.) I am very pleased to see sports play a prominent role in education, drug awareness programs, and scholarship activities. And first, best of luck to all tomorrow's participants. Good luck to each and every one of you. (Applause.)

I want to thank everybody and single out a few for this special hospitality. Doris Poppler, the Acting United States Attorney, has done a superb job on pulling all this together. The Attorney General, Marc Racicot. Senators Baucus and Burns and Governor Stephens and Mayor Larsen. We're honored to have with us also Robert Helmick, the President of the U.S. Olympic Committee. And then, of course, a very special hello to a special guest, Edwin Moses, whom I just was chatting with earlier -- an Olympic hurdler, and would you believe a bobsledder, too? (Laughter.) But you got a great turnout and great participants.

And I'm especially honored to be able to congratulate the 5th and 6th grade graduates of the DARE program who are out there in the crowd. (Applause.) You see, these kids are setting a wonderful example, not only for their friends and classmates, but for all the adults as well. And they're proof that each of us, no matter how young or how old, has a part to play in this war on drugs.

The drug problem facing America is the reason that I'm out here today with you. For over 100 years now, the people of Montana have been known as proud, hardworking, community-minded people. And that is where the answer to this nation's drug problem lies -- right here in the community. And there is no problem so great that all of us working together cannot solve.

We're beginning to see signs that our efforts, national efforts, against drugs are working. And last summer, a major nationwide survey found that the number of current drug users in this country had dropped by almost 40 percent in just three years. That's good news for America. It's good news for the next generation. (Applause.) And then in February, mid-February, another survey showed that the number of high school seniors using drugs declined in 1989, a long-term trend that has brought seniors' drug use to its lowest level in 15 years. So that's all good news. But the good news isn't limited to just these national statistics. Last year, the state of Montana reported a decrease in the number of drug abuse violations. It is news like this that deepens my faith, my conviction, that together we can win this national war against drugs. (Applause.)

But like all wars, we must be united in our efforts as a country and as a community. Parents, teachers, children, law

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enforcement officials must join as one. Business, labor, the professions -- all must be a part of this crusade for a drug-free America.

Each of you here today, by your presence, is sending the dealers of death a strong Montana message: We will not surrender our children. We will not surrender our community. (Applause.) Billings, Montana is in this fight to win -- and win it you will, win it we will.

You know, I know you're going to win because this state, like so many others across this great land, is taking the initiative -- you're fighting back. You've had enough. Last year, the Montana Board of Crime Control began the innovative Drug Abuse Resistance Education program throughout the state. For those of you not familiar with that, with DARE, it is a unique program that targets primarily 5th and 6th graders by using well-trained uniformed officers to teach the kids about the dangers of drug use. The program helps students recognize and resist the subtle pressures that influence kids to experiment with drugs and alcohol. Over 7,500 children statewide received instruction in the program's first year and this number does not include the kids in kindergarten through 4th grade who were taught about drugs through another program designed especially for them. So let's give a pat on the back to all the kids who have said no to drugs, and our thanks to the law enforcement officers who help them say no. (Applause.) We're very proud of all of them. Keep up the good work. In your own way, you are making America proud.

Another example of community involvement with young people are the antidrug programs supported by the Freemasons of America, like the Center for Adolescent Development's Montana Teen Institute. This innovative center takes at-risk teens who are willing to commit to swear off drugs and gives them the tools they need to avoid drug use. Teens like Manual Zuniga. An alum of the Teen Institute, Manual's new goal in life is to be a U.S. Marshal so he can help others. Manual says "all kids need the help of parents and all adults to fight the bad guys. I would rather be a role model to my community and have made a stand to live a drug-free life."

Often, kids, themselves, are some of our best troops on the front line against drugs. They understand the enormous power of friendship in helping one another avoid drugs. One such program gaining recognition not just around the country, but around the world, is Youth to Youth -- a community drug prevention program for middle school and high school age young people. Recognizing the influential force of peer pressure, the Youth to Youth program uses that pressure to encourage young people to live alcohol and drug-free lives. Proof that kids talking to kids can make a difference, is reflected in the words of a young man in Landisville, PA, who said, "All my friends are drug free, so I've learned that drug free is the way to be." Wise, wise words.

Parents will agree that there is nothing more heart-wrenching than to witness something as sinister as drugs and alcohol dim the sparkle of your children's eyes, steal their exuberance, destroy their dreams. But, parents don't have to stand by and hope their kids are spared from this devastation. Instead, each and every one of us -- that means grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, neighbors, friends, anyone -- can make a huge difference by setting a good example, and by watching for the overt signs -- the overt signs of abuse, the overt signs of trouble.

But, the most effective way to reach our kids is by talking to them about drugs, and even more important -- listening to them. Then, through caring, and, yes, discipline, -- help them turn their backs on drugs. When a kid has someone who cares enough to listen, he will not care about drugs.

But, kids, communities, families and friends have some special allies in this battle. In towns as small as Laurel and as big as Los Angeles, brave men and women who believe that this country

is worth fighting for, face danger and face death every single day. They form the "thin blue line" between good and evil protecting our children from drugs -- protecting all of us from the terrible threat of crime.

Right here in Montana, you know all too well that sometimes these modern-day champions are called upon to pay the ultimate price. You've lost one of the town of Hardin's finest in Janet Rogers, and our hearts go out to George Rogers and his three boys, Jace, Logan, and Chad, whom I'm told are here today. Your wife, your mother was a true American hero. (Applause.)

But let's face it -- heroes alone can't win wars. So in Washington the administration, under the able leadership of our tough Drug Czar Bill Bennett, is taking action to help support our law enforcement officers across the country. As we meet today in Montana, this beautiful state, we're still waiting for the House to act on our Anticrime Package. Earlier this year, we were pleased that Congress passed our request for more agents, more prosecutors, and more prisons to get criminals off the streets and behind bars where they belong. But we must do more.

I urge the House -- the House of Representatives -- to pass a major portion of the Violent Crime Act. Legislation that will back up our new lawmen with new laws -- laws that are fair, fast, and final. Fair -- an exclusionary rule designed to punish the guilty -- and not punish the good cops who have acted in good faith. (Applause.) And when I say fast -- fast -- we need habeas corpus reforms to stop the frivolous appeals that are choking our courts. (Applause.) And final -- I'm talking about fair and constitutionally sound death penalty provisions for these major traffickers. (Applause.) To win the war on drugs, we must have a united effort. This isn't Republican or Democrat or liberal or conservative. It's got to be bipartisan.

But now, it's time for Congress to act. Our children, our communities and our cops have waited long enough.

As I look out over this magnificent audience -- an ocean of red, white, and blue, I see America at her best. This country's strength has always been her people, people who for generations have always helped, not only for the neighbor next door, but for the stranger in trouble down the street. This was true over a hundred years ago, when this great land -- Montana -- became a state. Back then, the sight of smoke on the horizon, a sure sign of trouble, farmers would drop their plows and mountain men would leave their traps, and shopkeepers would abandon their stores, to help a neighbor in distress. Some of our first what I call "points of light." In 1990, this sense of community, this sense of caring still remains, as Americans support one another in this battle against drugs. Today, there is again smoke on the horizon, and every single one of you in this stadium are here to help. You're a community bound together not by geography, but by caring. And you should be very, very proud. So thank you for having me here and God bless the great state of Montana.

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

END

9:20 A.M. MDT

Remarks on Signing the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial Commemorative Medal and Fire Service Bill of Rights Act in Springfield, Pennsylvania

October 12, 1992

Curt, thank you so very much. And I just can't tell you what this event means to me. I want to offer a special salute to Curt Weldon. He has got to be, when you look at the whole Nation, the firefighter's, the emergency responder's best friend. He is unbelievable in his steadfast support for everything we believe in. Curt is very generous in his assessment of my role, but it is his work, his labor, his efforts that make this historic bill here—gives us this bill to sign today. I want to salute Chief Gallagher; Gene Bidoli, the president of the Firemen's Association of Delaware County. I want to salute the 20 national presidents that are here today representing a million and a half emergency responders all across our great country.

It's an honor to be here. And I guess like every kid in America, I grew up wondering whether I could ever be a fireman. Barbara saw me drilling a hole in the Lincoln Bedroom the other day, trying to put a fire pole down, curving it around to go down into the Oval Office. But I am here today to sign the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial Commemorative Medal and Fire Service Bill of Rights Act. It authorizes the minting of a medal commemorating Benjamin Franklin's contribution to the advancement of science and the American fire service.

The activities funded through the sale of the medal we're going to authorize today will help to carry out your important bill of rights. The proceeds will help promote education and training programs, a greater public awareness and support of the many hazards of firefighting and emergency response. And they will help assure that should the ultimate tragedy occur, your loved ones will be taken care of.

The list of benefits from this medal goes on and on, and so does the courage of the American firefighters. And I know that it can be touch and go in some situations, some of the calls that you respond to, the danger that every firefighter faces when entering a burn-

ing building or responding to an accident. For your bravery and for your unfailing dedication, I say this from the bottom of my heart: Thank you on behalf of all Americans.

Also included in this act is the Fire Service Bill of Rights. It is a tribute to all of you. It acknowledges the important contributions that firefighters make to their communities. But most of all, the Fire Service Bill of Rights is long-awaited and much-deserved recognition for all you do for your country.

As some of you may know, Teddy Roosevelt is among my favorite Presidents in history, and let me share with you what his father said to him on his 16th birthday. He said, "We are not placed here to live exclusively for ourselves." And you serve, you serve. You serve not only for yourselves alone, obviously, but for the family called America.

And on behalf of that family, thank you. May God bless each and every one of you. All of you are heroes in my book. And may God bless the State of Pennsylvania and this wonderful country that we are fortunate enough to live in, the United States of America.

And now you will see me sign enthusiastically and make official this very important act. Thank you all very much.

Note: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. at Springfield Township Fire Co. No. 44. In his remarks, he referred to U.S. Representative Curt Weldon. H.R. 2448, approved October 12, was assigned Public Law No. 102-406. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the Community in Springfield

October 12, 1992

The President. Thank you very, very much. Give them the sign. [Laughter] Thank you very, very much. Let me say it's great to be back here in Springfield, great to be back in this all-important part of Pennsylvania, and great to be accompanied by one of the true national leaders who is your Congressman, Curt Weldon. He's doing an outstanding job.

States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:01 p.m., February 14, 1992]

Note: This proclamation will be published in the Federal Register on February 19.

Nomination of George J. Terwilliger III To Be Deputy Attorney General February 14, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate George J. Terwilliger III, of Vermont, to be Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice. He would succeed William Pelham Barr.

Currently Mr. Terwilliger serves as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. Prior to this, he served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Vermont, 1986-1990; First Assistant U.S. Attorney for Vermont, 1986; and Assistant U.S. Attorney in Vermont, 1981-1986. From 1978 to 1981, Mr. Terwilliger served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Terwilliger graduated from Seton Hall University (B.A., 1973) and Antioch School of Law (J.D., 1978). He was born June 5, 1950, in New Brunswick, NJ. Mr. Terwilliger is married, has three children, and resides in Oakton, VA.

Nomination of Marc Allen Baas To Be United States Ambassador to Ethiopia

February 14, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Marc Allen Baas, of Florida, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ethiopia. He would succeed Frederick L. Chapin.

Currently Mr. Baas serves as Chargé d'Affaires for the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Chief of Mission in the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa, Zaire, 1987-1991; Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Lome, Togo, 1985-1987; and a student at the Naval War College in Newport, RI, 1984-1985. From 1980 to 1984, Mr. Baas served as Deputy Economic Counselor and Resource Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Baas graduated from American University (B.A., 1970). He was born June 23, 1948, in Grand Rapids, MI. Mr. Baas served in the District of Columbia National Guard, 1970. He is married and resides in Washington, DC.

The President's News Conference in Belcamp, Maryland February 14, 1992

The President. Let me just make a quick statement here. Today many families all across America share the same hope of owning their own home. But hard times have put a hold on the dream. And to these young families I made a pledge, and that is that we will help you get your dream within reach.

And I submitted to Congress an action plan to help the economy, not hurt the taxpayer. And I sent this plan to the House and the Senate and brought it along, great big thing here. It includes a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and a tax break for middle-class families. It's all there.

And we do not need to raise taxes in order to get this economy moving again. We need to cut the taxes and cut spending. And I've asked Congress for nothing flashy, just common sense, good common sense. And as I told these people I've been working with, construction workers and would-be homebuyers, I want that \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for the purchase of a first home. I want a modification in the tax rules that currently discourage real estate investors; it's known as the "passive loss" rules. And furthermore, I want a cut in the capital gains tax to boost real estate values and heat

up the housing market, especially with interest rates at such low levels.

And I told them that my plan will work. They're the experts here, but some representatives of the National Association of Homebuilders are with us today also. And that organization, and I'll let them speak for themselves, but that organization estimates that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, we will create 415,000 new construction industry jobs and generate \$20 billion in new economic activity, these figures from the experts.

And so I would ask you to ask one expert right here standing with me here, John Colvin, and he tells me that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, he expects to add an additional 90 homes to the 256 he already plans to sell and build in 1992. Now, that's 355 new homes here at Arborview, homes within reach of the middle-class buyers.

Two days after the State of the Union I sent a plan to Congress to get our economy moving this spring. Now, let me tell you what happened to the plan this week. Wednesday, the majority, the Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee in the House voted against my plan twice. And just yesterday in a closed meeting the Democrats surfaced a scheme that raises taxes and, more importantly for you, everyone here, I think, kills my plan to help these first-time homebuyers.

Many firms in the housing industry have reached the make-or-break point. And so I've set a deadline for the Congress to act, you heard it in the State of the Union, March 20th, 35 days from today. Make a note of that date.

But remember, anyone who wants to buy a home like this, under my plan, would get a \$5,000 tax credit. And under the Democrats' current package, they would get zero. And I've asked these good people here today to tell Congress not to send me a package that I have to veto on carrying a tax increase. The Democrats refuse to pass my plan out of the committee and instead they are considering a package that would raise these taxes. And because it's not paid for, it would trigger cuts in the Medicare benefits.

The American people, I really believe, want action. And they will not stand for this

maneuver there in the committee. I'm hoping the whole House of Representatives—Helen, will do a better job on this, and Wayne, our other Congressman with me here today—they need to pass this plan and to quit playing kind of partisan, election-year politics.

So I'm glad to take this opportunity to encourage the Congress to move. And on this bill, this rifleshoot approach that we have, it can be done almost overnight. It literally—it is not that complicated. There are seven stimulative tax provisions in here, and it will get the job done. It will really move this economy.

And so, I hope that everybody, regardless of political affiliation, will weigh in with the Congress and help us get this done.

So that is it. And thank you all very, very much.

Everybody read this, and I'm going to give you a quiz now on this. [Laughter]

First-Time Homeowners

Q. Mr. President, the Democrats say your March 20 plan is too front-end loaded for the rich.

The President. That doesn't look like it to me, a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homeowner. That doesn't seem to me to be helping the rich. It seems to me to be helping people own a home. It seems to me to be stimulating the housing business.

So that's the charge, I understand, but I wish they'd get out here and talk to some people that are working in these buildings and maybe talk to some that aspire to own a home. You know, there's plenty of time for politics later on, after March 20th. We ought to pass this one. Ask the head of the homebuilders, Jay down here. I mean, this is their business, and they'll tell you that that alone will have an enormously stimulative effect.

So, I'm asking them to say, let's set aside the politics as usual, get this part done, and then I'll go to battle stations with them on how I think the rest of this program should be enacted. But it's too urgent now. The economy's getting ready to move. Interest rates are down. Inflation is down. Everything's not all gloomy. But what it needs is a stimulative push right now. And it's good

And I ask for your support to help keep our Party strong and united. I want to be your President for 4 more years. I will try my level best to continue to lead this country with honor, with decency, with respect for the principles that all of us hold dear.

Barbara and I are very, very privileged, and we know it. Every single day we live in that White House we know that we are amongst the most privileged in the world to be able to serve in this way. I'm going to continue to try my hardest. I'm going to continue to do my level best for the people of this country. I ask for your support.

Thank you, and may God bless the greatest country on the face of the Earth. Thank you very much.

[At this point, Richard Sandler presented the President with an oversize hammer.]

Thank you all very, very much. I'll take this and flee and bring it to bear next week on the Congress. Thanks a lot.

Note: The President spoke at 10:37 a.m. at South Carolina State Fair Grounds. In his remarks, he referred to Richard Sandler, president of the South Carolina Home Builders Association; Charles Newman, first vice president of the Home Builders Association of Greater Columbia; Mike McMichael, president of the Home Builders Association of South Carolina; and Dottie Lafitte-Woolston, BUILD-PAC trustee.

Remarks Upon Departure From Columbia, South Carolina

March 5, 1992

Hey, listen, let me just ask you now to go out and be sure to vote on Saturday and send the rest of the Super Tuesday States a strong message: I want to be your President for 4 more years. So give me that vote. And thanks for your fantastic support, and don't let all the doomsayers get you down. I love this South Carolina optimism, the South Carolina pride, the South Carolina patriotism.

So thanks for this warm welcome. Now we're off to Tennessee, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana, and then we're going to

get back for a great big Super Tuesday. But show them what we can do on Saturday. And thank you for this great Governor at my side. Thank you all.

Note: The President spoke at 1:10 p.m. at Columbia Metropolitan Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Governor Carroll Campbell. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to Federal Express Employees in Memphis, Tennessee **March 5, 1992**

Thank you so very much. Thank you so much for that enthusiastic welcome. And thank you to my friend, Howard Baker, one of the great leaders in the United States Senate in all of its history. Thank you for the introduction, Howard. And may I salute Congressman Don Sundquist, who has been at my side in the political wars, a good friend, a great Congressman. And I'm delighted to be here at Federal Express, 1990 Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award winner, a national winner.

My staff told me they weren't sure they could fit this stop in our schedule. But when I said it was a "Fred said," I knew we had to do it and fast. Fred, thank you. You know, Fred Smith has always been very, very generous. And Fred, it's good to know that if Air Force One ever has a problem, I can always ride in the jump seat. And I hope I don't forget the cookies. And you know what that means.

The people of Memphis, indeed, all Americans, face a momentous decision this year. And I would never presume to tell you how to vote; it must be between you and your conscience: Which Elvis should be on the postage stamp? I noticed the sign.

And, really, it is a delight to be in this State because the people of Tennessee believe in big things, and we agree on the values that are closest to our hearts. And I'm talking about job security. I'm talking about family. I'm talking about world peace for us and our children and for our families for generations to come.

I'm here today because the people in Memphis, as well as people at Federal Express, embody the values that have made America number one in the world. And I know that with leaders like you, America will stay number one. Don't listen to the gloom and doom pessimists on that evening news every night. You don't shrink from a challenge, whether in the marketplace or in the world at large. Think back to a year ago. Think back to Operation Desert Storm. America faced a great challenge then, and Tennessee met it proudly. More than 6,000 Tennesseans served their country as reservists of the National Guard. And Fed Ex flew more missions than any other single civilian carrier. And believe me, that is not a contribution that America will ever forget. Thank you all very much and all of you that helped make that possible.

What makes this city, this State, and this company so successful? It's not hard to figure out. Look closely at what happens right here at Federal Express. You seek out new technologies, you make them work, you see job training not as a one-shot deal but as an ongoing process. And you set high standards, constantly asking more of yourselves and your coworkers, and you're satisfied with nothing short of excellence. Innovation, that's what being competitive is all about.

The key to success, to our success as a Nation is competitiveness. And for some, that word, competitiveness, is just this year's political buzzword. Here in Memphis it's a reality. Competitiveness is your key to leadership. And companies like this one here, Fed Ex, understand a central truth about America: If we are to succeed economically at home, we must lead economically abroad. And that's what you are doing.

And here at Fed Ex that's just common sense. More than 1.5 million packages pass through here everyday en route to all parts of the globe. And Memphis, therefore, is already America's distribution center, and now you're becoming the world's. And that means economic opportunity, and it means jobs for the American people.

You know, in this political year, this political year some people can't seem to understand that. They see the challenges of a global economy, and they say, "Let's draw the

blinds; bolt the doors. Maybe the world will go away." And they push protectionism, an ugly word that really means surrender. Don't be fooled by the tough talk and the patriotic political bluster out there. Protectionism comes from fear, fear that Americans can't compete, fear that Americans have no ideas and no foresight, fear that America can no longer lead. And let those skeptics come to Memphis, Tennessee, and let them come to Federal Express and see what it really is about. And maybe then they'll understand what you and I already know; Americans here and across our country can outthink, outperform, outproduce anybody in the world.

Never in this country's history have Americans turned their back on a challenge. And we don't run and hide. We compete. As long as I am President, we will continue to compete, and we will continue to compete. And I don't believe in protectionism, and I don't believe in isolationism. Yes, we've got a lot of work to do to keep America on top. And of course, you know and I know that our biggest challenge, my first priority, is to get this economy moving, to create and preserve American jobs.

And in my State of the Union Address in January, I laid out a two-part plan for the economic recovery. First, a short-term plan to strengthen the economy right now. And then, second, a longer term plan to keep America growing strong for years to come. And my plan gets business moving again, hiring again. It gets the housing market back on its feet with a \$5,000 tax credit for that first-time homebuyer. Give those young families a chance to own their own home, commonsense proposals to get people buying homes and then building homes.

Fortunately, Congress can't tie my hands on everything. I've been able to take some steps on my own. For example, I put a 90-day freeze on new Government regulations so that all major Cabinet departments and agencies can conduct a top-to-bottom review. And I've given them some advice: Wherever possible, they must speed up any regulations that encourage economic growth and scrap regulations that restrict economic growth in this country.

Overregulation robs the inventiveness and risktaking the economy needs to grow. And

you all understand that better than anybody. For the first year, Fed Ex ran its business with 32 small planes. Any further expansion was inhibited by cargo, air cargo regulations. And deregulation allowed Fed Ex to buy more planes, larger planes, for transport. And literally, Federal Express took off when the regulatory burden was lifted from their backs. And so, we're going to energize our economy nationally the same way. The days of overregulation are just that; they are over.

And also there's another thing on the minds of the people in this great area, and that means reforming our legal system. When parents won't coach Little League for fear of being slapped with a liability lawsuit and doctors stop delivering babies for fear of a malpractice suit, there is something wrong. And that's why I've sent a bill to the Congress, supported by Don Sundquist, to stop the frivolous lawsuits that drain our wallets and tear apart our society. And here's the bottom line: America won't find its way out of this mess until we spend more time helping each other than we do suing each other.

We've got to also reform our health care system. Anyone who's had even a checkup knows that medical costs are going right through the roof. And I believe all Americans deserve quality health care. However, too many families go without health care coverage. And our plan focuses on opening up access to health care to all Americans, rich or poor. And some want to take us down the road of nationalized health care, and I think you and I both know that nationalized health care where Government makes all the decisions would be a national disaster. And so, I say to the Congress, the Congress of the United States, the American people need your help and now is not the time for the Government to play doctor. Give us an improved health care program for this country.

I'd like them to do it now. But see, I know Congress can be a little slow doing things.

[Laughter] That's like the guy that takes an hour and a half to watch "60 Minutes."

[Laughter] So I gave them a deadline, March 20th, to enact this short-term plan. And unfortunately for the American people, the Democrats, the liberals that control the Congress, had other ideas. Last week they passed a plan of their own. And here's what it does:

In exchange for a two-bit tax cut, literally about 25 cents a day per taxpayer, they will raise another \$100 billion in taxes. And they call that \$100 billion new revenues. And I have another word for it: your money. [Laughter]

No matter how the the Democrats try to dress it up, any economist can tell you the last thing we need right now is a \$100 billion tax hike. So if the Democrats in Congress want to send that bill to me, I've got a message for them: I will veto it, absolutely, positively, overnight.

No, the American people have had enough of the old tax-and-spend, and they want to get our economy back on track. And every day each one of you hears Federal Express airplanes flying overhead. To some people that might sound like noise, but it is music to my ears. It is the sound of an economy on the move, an economy that is worldwide. It is the sound of American ingenuity taking off.

Since I took office, it has been my responsibility to work for what is right for America. And I often go back, I expect we all do as families—and I wish Barbara Bush were with me to see this marvelous crowd today—we often go back to the simple ideal that in our case, that my parents taught me: Try your hardest, be honest, do you best. And let me tell you something: I'm not finished yet. I want your support for 4 more years to finish this job. And I say to the people of Tennessee, together we're going to make a change, a change that for once Congress will believe in you and give you values you believe in, give those values a real chance to work.

Thank you for your hard work, thank you all for this enthusiastic welcome and your continued support. And may God bless the greatest, freest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you so much.

Note: The President spoke at 2:35 p.m. at Memphis International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Frederick W. Smith, chairman and chief executive officer of Federal Express. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

interest that I do that, and I'm going to keep on doing it. I don't care what your Congressman from Missouri says about it.

As we approach the 21st century, let's remember, isolationism makes no sense; never did. It represents an old ignorance that was scorned by my predecessors Roosevelt, Truman, and Kennedy, and that all Presidents and the American people since have looked upon with disdain. I speak of the ignorance that inspires people to hide from the rest of the world, wishing our problems away instead of creating solutions. It urges them to blame others rather than to call forth the best in ourselves.

I want to do better. I will continue to work my heart out to see that this economy gets on the move. I just wish I had more Members of Congress to implement this program I've outlined for you here tonight. More Members like Kit and Jack, we could be moving sooner. But we're going to keep on. And I'm going to keep that hand of friendship and cooperation extended to the Congress of the United States. I think I owe that to the American people. But I am not going to do it their way. The only way you can make—when you don't have a majority—make something good happen, is to veto bad legislation. And I'm going to keep right on vetoing it until we can make something good happen for this country.

Kit Bond's work embodies his motto, I think there's some of the things I've talked about tonight, "Values we believe in, experience we trust." So, my plea tonight is let's make the most of those values. And let's use them to celebrate America. Let's use them to reelect Kit Bond to be Senator from the great State of Missouri. Let's use them to enhance the standing of the United States of America at home and abroad. We are lucky to be Americans and God bless the United States of America.

Note: The President spoke at 6:38 p.m. at the Riverport Amphitheater. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at the Welcoming Ceremony for President Carlos Menem of Argentina

November 14, 1991

President Bush. Thank you all very much. And President Menem, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the White House. The ties between our countries have never been stronger, and a great deal of credit goes to you and your administration.

Nearly a year ago, a revolt by renegade soldiers faced you in your nation's capital. And you stood firm in defense of freedom and liberty and in defense of your people's right to a government of their choice.

In the end, freedom triumphed. It was an honor to join you, just a few days later, in beautiful Buenos Aires, the capital of a proud and free Argentina.

In your inaugural address you asked Argentina to "arise and walk." When we met last year in the capital, we spoke about the challenges your country faces and the changes that have already been set in motion.

Today, Mr. President, Argentina is assuming its rightful place as a leader in the democratic community of nations. Nowhere in this hemisphere is the shape of the post-cold-war world more evident than in Argentina. Under your leadership, Argentina has become one of the hemisphere's strongest defenders of democracy, both at home and abroad.

When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, you sent your Navy to join the international coalition which liberated that pillaged nation. And when tanks rumbled through the streets of Moscow, threatening the Soviet Union's forces of democratic reform, you were one of the very first in Latin America to speak out in defense of liberty. You have called for democratic reform in Cuba and made major contributions to the efforts of the Organization of American States to restore democratic government to Haiti.

At home, you have slashed government spending, privatized state-owned industries, and abolished harmful overregulation of the economy. You have brought once-rampant inflation under control. And last year, Argentina had a trade surplus of nearly \$8

billion, and U.S. firms alone invested over \$200 million in Argentina.

Despite facing many difficult challenges when you took office in 1989, your efforts have earned the respect of the international community. More importantly, they strengthened Argentina's competitive position in the global economy, by attracting new confidence and investment from around the world. I share that confidence in Argentina's future under your leadership.

In the rapidly evolving relationship among the nations of the Southern Cone, you have taken the lead in achieving regional economic integration and arms control.

For example, by the end of 1995, the Mercosur common market aims to eliminate tariffs between Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay, linking your economies together in a way consistent with GATT to form one of the hemisphere's largest open markets. You're taking a giant step toward the goal I stated last year in announcing the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative: To make the Americas the world's largest partnership of free-trading nations.

We also welcome your efforts to set in place nuclear safeguards that will increase international security. And your decisions to forswear chemical weapons and halt missile proliferation do create a safer hemisphere, a safer world.

From Rivadavia to Rio Gallegos, from Zapala to Buenos Aires, your strong, committed leadership is bringing your people hope for change, faith in their countrymen, and the courage to "arise and walk" together.

On behalf of the people of the United States, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the White House. And may God bless the Argentine Republic.

President Menem. My dear friend, Mr. President, distinguished Mrs. Bush, ladies and gentlemen, sisters and brothers of America. Thank you very much for your warm words of welcome. It is to me a source of deep satisfaction to be once again here in this great country whose institutions and values have been and still are an example of freedom and human dignity. Moreover, I come back with the satisfaction of having already traveled a long distance

along the path of transformation my government has chosen.

There is still a lot to be done in Argentina. Many expectations are still unfulfilled. Many are the problems. However, with effort, firmness, and determination, we are conquering the slope of decadence. With civil freedom, with economic freedom, with an unprecedented freedom of the press, after 2 years of hard work to achieve change, most of the Argentine people have ratified recently their support during our last elections.

This means backing the government, backing the economic cause and also a new way of insertion in the world. Our determination is today firmer than ever before to continue implementing state reform, privatizations, open trade, stimulation of foreign investment, deregulation, and also the return to Argentina of assets that were sent abroad. Argentina has also decided to continue playing an active role in the defense of peace and international security, giving all possible support to United Nations initiatives.

When this year began, a distant region in the world was in crisis. In the Gulf, we faced, then, serious risks with possible consequences for the whole planet. Within the framework of what the United Nations decided and as the result of the great effort of the United States and its allies, it was possible to end aggression and restore the full rule of international law. We participated in that joint action, and we are proud we did. Some months later, you, yourself, my friend, Mr. President, had the initiative to propose unilaterally a significant reduction of nuclear weaponry.

The Middle East had, for time immemorial, been a region where all expectations to obtain a just and lasting peace floundered and were thwarted. A few days ago, you inaugurated a conference that has renewed the hope of a constructive dialog in the region when calling to the same negotiating table antagonists who seemed only yesterday to be implacably hostile. This is a really formidable progress, I insist, a formidable and spectacular progress. A new international order is being generated on the basis of peace, of justice, of reason, and under

the guidance of God, our only source of reason and justice.

This is the reason why we recognize today our vast coincidence with the United States. For instance, in the common aim of restoring the democratic government of the Republic of Haiti. That is why we rely on integration. We want to consolidate Mercosur with our regional brothers. And we also want to add our own efforts so that the ambitious Enterprise for the Americas Initiative that you, Mr. President, conceived and announced last year will bear fruit.

With Brazil, we have signed an agreement for the exclusively peaceful use of nuclear energy, and we are about to conclude an agreement on safeguards with the International Atomic Energy Agency. With Brazil, too, and Chile and Uruguay—Paraguay and Bolivia will join us in the future—we have made the commitment of not producing nor buying, storing, or transferring chemical or biological weapons; of course, banning any kind of use for them.

Furthermore, we have also joined the control system for missile technology, known by the acronym MTCR. Whitman's prophetic dreams are renewed, entwined with the illusions of having a single and great America as they were presaged by Ruben Dario, Jose Marti, and Domingo Faustino Sarmiento.

To this end, it will be necessary to find in each and every country of our America a representative democracy with full respect for human rights and a free economy. I repeat, in all the countries of this continent with absolutely no exceptions.

To this end, it will be necessary, Mr. President, to bring a message of a nation that is looking inwards. The message is very simple: The Argentine nation faces with seriousness the need of having a place in the new international order. This we are sure to obtain since we have a representative democracy, we respect human rights, and we chose a free economy.

We trust that the European Economic Community and the developed world will not persist in applying old protectionist schemes that menace the hope of a better future.

We hope that we may be able to cooperate firmly so that, and I quote your own words, my dear President and friend, "we

may eliminate subsidies that distort trade." We hope we may be able to translate into concrete results some political statements allowing markets to exist whose transparency will reward efficient producers. We trust in the oldest constitutional democracy in the world, and that democracy is the one in the United States.

We place our trust in the United States and its leaders, who, in 1991, have faced up to their responsibilities towards the international community with maturity and imagination and commendable moderation.

Mr. President, I am really moved by this reception. I am sure that our stay here will not only be a pleasure but also very fruitful. I thank you for your warmth and your hospitality.

God bless you, Mr. President. God bless your country and God bless our America.

Note: President Bush spoke at 9:58 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where President Menem was accorded a formal welcome with full military honors. President Menem spoke in Spanish, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Exchange With Reporters in the Cabinet Room

November 14, 1991

'92 Election

Q. Mr. President, is Buchanan doing the right thing thinking about running?

The President. I haven't paid much attention to that yet.

Libyan Indictments

Q. Mr. President, do you have any comment on the Lockerbie indictments?

The President. We will have, but I want all that to come out properly. And then I'll undoubtedly have something to say. That was a terrible event. And indictments—we have a system of justice in this country. But I gather from briefings I've had that they're serious. I mean, this isn't some quick hit,

Remarks on Signing the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial Commemorative Medal and Fire Service Bill of Rights Act in Springfield, Pennsylvania

October 12, 1992

Curt, thank you so very much. And I just can't tell you what this event means to me. I want to offer a special salute to Curt Weldon. He has got to be, when you look at the whole Nation, the firefighter's, the emergency responder's best friend. He is unbelievable in his steadfast support for everything we believe in. Curt is very generous in his assessment of my role, but it is his work, his labor, his efforts that make this historic bill here—gives us this bill to sign today. I want to salute Chief Gallagher; Gene Bidoli, the president of the Firemen's Association of Delaware County. I want to salute the 20 national presidents that are here today representing a million and a half emergency responders all across our great country.

It's an honor to be here. And I guess like every kid in America, I grew up wondering whether I could ever be a fireman. Barbara saw me drilling a hole in the Lincoln Bedroom the other day, trying to put a fire pole down, curving it around to go down into the Oval Office. But I am here today to sign the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial Commemorative Medal and Fire Service Bill of Rights Act. It authorizes the minting of a medal commemorating Benjamin Franklin's contribution to the advancement of science and the American fire service.

The activities funded through the sale of the medal we're going to authorize today will help to carry out your important bill of rights. The proceeds will help promote education and training programs, a greater public awareness and support of the many hazards of firefighting and emergency response. And they will help assure that should the ultimate tragedy occur, your loved ones will be taken care of.

The list of benefits from this medal goes on and on, and so does the courage of the American firefighters. And I know that it can be touch and go in some situations, some of the calls that you respond to, the danger that every firefighter faces when entering a burn-

ing building or responding to an accident. For your bravery and for your unfailing dedication, I say this from the bottom of my heart: Thank you on behalf of all Americans.

Also included in this act is the Fire Service Bill of Rights. It is a tribute to all of you. It acknowledges the important contributions that firefighters make to their communities. But most of all, the Fire Service Bill of Rights is long-awaited and much-deserved recognition for all you do for your country.

As some of you may know, Teddy Roosevelt is among my favorite Presidents in history, and let me share with you what his father said to him on his 16th birthday. He said, "We are not placed here to live exclusively for ourselves." And you serve, you serve. You serve not only for yourselves alone, obviously, but for the family called America.

And on behalf of that family, thank you. May God bless each and every one of you. All of you are heroes in my book. And may God bless the State of Pennsylvania and this wonderful country that we are fortunate enough to live in, the United States of America.

And now you will see me sign enthusiastically and make official this very important act. Thank you all very much.

Note: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. at Springfield Township Fire Co. No. 44. In his remarks, he referred to U.S. Representative Curt Weldon. H.R. 2448, approved October 12, was assigned Public Law No. 102-406. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the Community in Springfield

October 12, 1992

The President. Thank you very, very much. Give them the sign. [Laughter] Thank you very, very much. Let me say it's great to be back here in Springfield, great to be back in this all-important part of Pennsylvania, and great to be accompanied by one of the true national leaders who is your Congressman, Curt Weldon. He's doing an outstanding job.

States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:01 p.m., February 14, 1992]

Note: This proclamation will be published in the Federal Register on February 19.

Nomination of George J. Terwilliger III To Be Deputy Attorney General February 14, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate George J. Terwilliger III, of Vermont, to be Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice. He would succeed William Pelham Barr.

Currently Mr. Terwilliger serves as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. Prior to this, he served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Vermont, 1986–1990; First Assistant U.S. Attorney for Vermont, 1986; and Assistant U.S. Attorney in Vermont, 1981–1986. From 1978 to 1981, Mr. Terwilliger served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Terwilliger graduated from Seton Hall University (B.A., 1973) and Antioch School of Law (J.D., 1978). He was born June 5, 1950, in New Brunswick, NJ. Mr. Terwilliger is married, has three children, and resides in Oakton, VA.

Nomination of Marc Allen Baas To Be United States Ambassador to Ethiopia February 14, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Marc Allen Baas, of Florida, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ethiopia. He would succeed Frederick L. Chapin.

Currently Mr. Baas serves as Chargé d'Affaires for the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Chief of Mission in the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa, Zaire, 1987–1991; Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Lome, Togo, 1985–1987; and a student at the Naval War College in Newport, RI, 1984–1985. From 1980 to 1984, Mr. Baas served as Deputy Economic Counselor and Resource Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Baas graduated from American University (B.A., 1970). He was born June 23, 1948, in Grand Rapids, MI. Mr. Baas served in the District of Columbia National Guard, 1970. He is married and resides in Washington, DC.

The President's News Conference in Belcamp, Maryland February 14, 1992

The President. Let me just make a quick statement here. Today many families all across America share the same hope of owning their own home. But hard times have put a hold on the dream. And to these young families I made a pledge, and that is that we will help you get your dream within reach.

And I submitted to Congress an action plan to help the economy, not hurt the taxpayer. And I sent this plan to the House and the Senate and brought it along, great big thing here. It includes a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and a tax break for middle-class families. It's all there.

And we do not need to raise taxes in order to get this economy moving again. We need to cut the taxes and cut spending. And I've asked Congress for nothing flashy, just common sense, good common sense. And as I told these people I've been working with, construction workers and would-be homebuyers, I want that \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for the purchase of a first home. I want a modification in the tax rules that currently discourage real estate investors; it's known as the "passive loss" rules. And furthermore, I want a cut in the capital gains tax to boost real estate values and heat

up the housing market, especially with interest rates at such low levels.

And I told them that my plan will work. They're the experts here, but some representatives of the National Association of Homebuilders are with us today also. And that organization, and I'll let them speak for themselves, but that organization estimates that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, we will create 415,000 new construction industry jobs and generate \$20 billion in new economic activity, these figures from the experts.

And so I would ask you to ask one expert right here standing with me here, John Colvin, and he tells me that if Congress passes my plan by March 20th, he expects to add an additional 90 homes to the 256 he already plans to sell and build in 1992. Now, that's 355 new homes here at Arborview, homes within reach of the middle-class buyers.

Two days after the State of the Union I sent a plan to Congress to get our economy moving this spring. Now, let me tell you what happened to the plan this week. Wednesday, the majority, the Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee in the House voted against my plan twice. And just yesterday in a closed meeting the Democrats surfaced a scheme that raises taxes and, more importantly for you, everyone here, I think, kills my plan to help these first-time homebuyers.

Many firms in the housing industry have reached the make-or-break point. And so I've set a deadline for the Congress to act, you heard it in the State of the Union, March 20th, 35 days from today. Make a note of that date.

But remember, anyone who wants to buy a home like this, under my plan, would get a \$5,000 tax credit. And under the Democrats' current package, they would get zero. And I've asked these good people here today to tell Congress not to send me a package that I have to veto on carrying a tax increase. The Democrats refuse to pass my plan out of the committee and instead they are considering a package that would raise these taxes. And because it's not paid for, it would trigger cuts in the Medicare benefits.

The American people, I really believe, want action. And they will not stand for this

maneuver there in the committee. I'm hoping the whole House of Representatives—Helen, will do a better job on this, and Wayne, our other Congressman with me here today—they need to pass this plan and to quit playing kind of partisan, election-year politics.

So I'm glad to take this opportunity to encourage the Congress to move. And on this bill, this rifleshoot approach that we have, it can be done almost overnight. It literally—it is not that complicated. There are seven stimulative tax provisions in here, and it will get the job done. It will really move this economy.

And so, I hope that everybody, regardless of political affiliation, will weigh in with the Congress and help us get this done.

So that is it. And thank you all very, very much.

Everybody read this, and I'm going to give you a quiz now on this. [Laughter]

First-Time Homeowners

Q. Mr. President, the Democrats say your March 20 plan is too front-end loaded for the rich.

The President. That doesn't look like it to me, a \$5,000 tax credit for first-time homeowner. That doesn't seem to me to be helping the rich. It seems to me to be helping people own a home. It seems to me to be stimulating the housing business.

So that's the charge, I understand, but I wish they'd get out here and talk to some people that are working in these buildings and maybe talk to some that aspire to own a home. You know, there's plenty of time for politics later on, after March 20th. We ought to pass this one. Ask the head of the homebuilders, Jay down here. I mean, this is their business, and they'll tell you that that alone will have an enormously stimulative effect.

So, I'm asking them to say, let's set aside the politics as usual, get this part done, and then I'll go to battle stations with them on how I think the rest of this program should be enacted. But it's too urgent now. The economy's getting ready to move. Interest rates are down. Inflation is down. Everything's not all gloomy. But what it needs is a stimulative push right now. And it's good