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June 4, 1990
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**REMARKS: PRESIDENT'S DINNER
WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER
TUESDAY, JUNE 12
7:30 P.M.**

((Thank you very much. Thank you, Guy, for that wonderful introduction, and for the great job you are doing as our chairman of the House Campaign Committee. And we all know what an outstanding job Vice President Quayle is doing for our country and for our Party -- he's carried our message of opportunity practically a quarter million miles around the world. \\) . Senator Dole; Senator Nickles; Congressman Michel; our wonderful host, Senator Howard Baker; and all of our dinner leadership, especially Dwayne Andreas and Carl Lindner -- it's a pleasure to see all of you and again, I thank for your hard work and dedication. \\))

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding men and women of my Cabinet \\ and let me mention a man who is not only a close advisor but a good friend, **Lee Atwater**. \\ Lee, you've been a champion in the Republican Party ... a champion in the music world .. and now you'll be a champion in the biggest fight of all. I know you'll be back in the saddle again leading the Party to more victories in the future. \\)

((I understand some of you circulated a petition complaining that the only reason I was invited to speak here is because I'm Barbara Bush's husband.\\))

It's great to be here. But I have noticed one thing: I haven't seen a crowd this excited since **Marla Maples** appeared at the White House Correspondents Dinner. \\

And I don't think there have been so many well-dressed people in one place since the valet parking attendants reported for duty at the Kennedy-Cuomo wedding.\\

I know it's getting late. I almost feel as if I'm at the Oscars. \\ Have we gotten to Best Picture yet? \\

In fact, the longer this dinner goes, the more I'm reminded of that new movie, "**Another 48 Hours.**" I promise to be brief.))

I just returned from the Midwest on a trip for some great Republican candidates, where I spoke of the successful Summit we held with President Gorbachev. ((In fact, I asked President Gorbachev if he thought there was actually a chance for the empire to crumble and collapse. He said, "I'm not here to talk about the Trump organization." \\))

It was the Republican policy of **peace through strength** which allowed us to make so much progress at the Washington Summit two weeks ago -- a policy so successful in the 1980s because of the vision and leadership of one man, **President Ronald Reagan.** \\

President Gorbachev and I worked together during those historic days two weeks ago, to further the process of peace by working toward a safer world and a stable, new Europe -- one in which every nation's security is strengthened and no nation is threatened.

I've also come to you tonight to set a few things straight. Apparently, there are people in America whose sense of priorities is out of whack, a misguided few with a warped view of this country. \\ These are the same people who said "America's Funniest Home Videos" wouldn't last. \\

I'm talking about the people who believe there's no difference between the Republican and Democratic Parties. But there is a big difference. On our side -- the Republican side -- lies opportunity, empowerment, choice, and free market solutions to big-government problems. And Republicans want power in the hands of people, not big government.

What's scaring the heck out of our opponents is that this fall, they're up against the Republican record. The longest peacetime economic expansion in history. The lowest unemployment rate in 16 years, and over 21 million jobs created.

We're the ones who want to keep the economy strong, and we've fought every step of the way against those who want to bring America to a grinding halt -- by fighting against mandated benefits for small businesses, mindless red tape, **more tax-and-spend programs**. We're the ones who support a **balanced budget amendment** and the **line-item veto** -- because with a more sane budget process, we know we can build a better America. \\

And we're the ones who sent the **Violent Crime Control Act** to Congress last year, with tougher penalties and enforcement measures. This Administration is leading the charge to take back the streets, and we will win.\\

We're the Party that brought you the **Educational Excellence Act** and the **Education Summit** to define National Goals for our schools for the first time in American history -- so that American students become the best in the world.\

And take a look at our record on the environment. We sent to Congress the first major overhaul of the **Clean Air Act** in over a decade. Some think the way to protect our environment is through command and control -- commanding bureaucrats and controlling our economy. But this Administration believes in market-oriented policies, ones that protect our planet and keep hard-working Americans on the job.\

Tonight, I've only mentioned some of our **greatest hits** from the Republican Record. But, as everyone here knows, **achieving more depends on winning more elections to Congress**. We can beat our Democratic opponents on the issues -- when the fight is a fair one. But we lose -- and the American people lose -- when the fight is rigged because of Democratic gerrymandering.\

Today, Democrats now have a redistricting advantage in states that compose about 90 percent of the seats in Congress. We must make solid gains at the state level. In fact, in key gubernatorial and legislative races in the eight largest states will directly affect our Republican candidates in 209 Congressional districts.

But this year's Senate elections will present an opportunity for us to regain the Senate. Of the 34 Senators up for re-

election in 1990, 18 are Republicans and 16 are Democrats. All that stands between us and a Republican Senate is **five seats**.

We can end the Democratic stranglehold on the U.S. Congress. \\

Our goal is to build a better America for our children, and for those who will come after them in the next century. The best way to do it is to give people opportunity, empowerment and choice. Our goals are big, but we have the best candidates and the best supporters in the country to get us there -- **and many of them are right here tonight.**\\

((And I have some news for [name of top fundraiser named earlier in evening]: Your wallet has just been given its own zip code.

Republicans all across the making a difference -- in our Party, in our country, and in the lives of others. People like ----- and ----- . There are so many, many others like them here tonight -- we call them "points of light" -- who make up this Grand Old Party. We can and will continue to make a difference for those in need. **That's what building a better America is all about.**\\

Thank you all -- every one of you -- for your gigantic contribution to these goals. God bless you, and thank you all.

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Bush and Quayle predict victory in Senate races

By Frank J. Murray
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Vice President Dan Quayle predicted Republicans will regain control of the Senate this year and President Bush seemed to agree in speeches last night to the party faithful who chipped in \$5.25 million toward that goal.

"We can end the Democratic stranglehold on the U.S. Congress," Mr. Bush said at the annual President's Dinner at the Washington Convention Center.

"As for the Senate, I think we've got a shot at control this year," Mr. Quayle said, forecasting Republicans will overcome the 55-45 Democratic advantage by capturing Senate seats in Rhode Island, Illinois, Nebraska, Iowa, Michigan, Alabama, Montana and Hawaii.

There was no equal time for Democrats at the GOP gala, where an estimated 3,500 people paid \$1,500 each to cheer on congressional campaigns supported by the National Republican Senate Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.

After hearing himself praised for party fund raising on his road trips, Mr. Quayle insisted the GOP's strength lies in its better-qualified Senate candidates, including members of the House.

"Meanwhile, the Democrats haven't been able to recruit any House members to challenge our incumbents," Mr. Quayle said in remarks that were always optimistic and sometimes lighthearted.

The vice president noted that yesterday was Mr. Bush's 66th birthday and wondered aloud what could be given to the man who has everything.

"Finally it came to me, the only thing

George Bush doesn't have that he really needs is a Republican Congress," Mr. Quayle said.

At times, Mr. Bush feigned unconcern about the absence of GOP control, claiming party credit for a list of achievements ranging from economic good times in the United States to Eastern Europe's turn to democracy.

"What's scaring the heck out of our opponents is the simple fact that this fall they're up against the Republican record," Mr. Bush said with unrestrained partisanship.

"It was the Republican policy of peace through strength coupled with our unyielding commitment to freedom and democracy that helped breathe life into the Revolution of '89 and provided us the opportunity to make so much progress at the Washington summit," Mr. Bush said.

"Republicans are the ones who want to keep the economy strong," he said, adding crime fighting and progress on education and the environment to what he called the Republicans' "greatest hits."

"We can beat our Democratic opponents on the issues, when the fight is a fair one. But we lose, and the American people lose, when the fight is rigged because of Democratic gerrymandering," he said.

The only melancholy note was struck by Mr. Bush when he noted the absence of Republican National Chairman Lee Atwater, who was recently discharged from his latest hospital stay for treatment of a brain tumor.

"He's a real pro, and I can't wait till he's back in the saddle again, leading the party to more victories in the future," he said.



BY HARRY NALTCHAYAN—THE WASHINGTON POST

President Bush and Howard Baker at the Convention Center last night.

The GOP's Golden Touch

At the Convention Center, a Presidential Prom

By Roxanne Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

To call "The President's Dinner" a fundraiser is woefully inadequate. It's the GOP's Big Enchilada: part senior prom, part parade float. A Brink's truck ready to party.

"It's an incredible, overwhelming event," gushed New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato last night. "I think it's a spectacular. You can get to take it all for granted. You can become a little bit jaded, but just *look* at this!"

Who could miss it? The drab innards of the Convention Center had been transformed into a Washington-by-night illuminated fantasy.

Four huge sets—the White House, the Capitol Building, the Lincoln Memorial and the Jefferson Memorial—dominated the four walls; a confluence of top Republicans, from President Bush on down and four giant video screens dominated the rest of the vast room.

This annual black-tie extravaganza is the party's largest fundraiser and last night, adding to the fun, was also a celebration of the president's 66th birthday. More than 3,600 party faithful flew in from across the country, forked up a minimum of \$1,500 apiece, and added almost \$7 million to election-year campaign coffers of the National Republican Sen-

See GOP, C3, Col. 1



BY HARRY MALTCHAYAN—THE WASHINGTON POST

Whitney Houston and Marvin Hamlisch at the Convention Center.

Dinner

GOP, From C1

atorial Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.

"The people that come from out of town sure seem to enjoy them," said Arizona Sen. John McCain. "I think Washington is a very intriguing place to a lot of people who don't live and work here. And I think they like to see the president and all that kind of routine."

McCain (who is not running for reelection this year "but from the looks of the take, I wish I was") was wearing a blue "Senate" ribbon—not to be confused with the blue "House" or "Cabinet" ribbons. No name tags (*tacky*), just ribbons.

The idea, said New Hampshire Rep. Bob Smith, is "to mingle with all the guests so they get some recognition for all their support."

While the crowd waited for Team GOP to arrive, the half-dozen photo stations that filled the lobby before dinner did a brisk business. Guests could get a 5 by 7 picture (\$10), four wallet shots (\$10), a 11 by 14 (\$35) or an 8 by 10 shot (unframed \$17, framed \$55) with the caption "George Bush. The President's Dinner. June 12, 1990. Washington, D.C."

Then it was upstairs for the Pledge of Allegiance led by D.C. mayoral candidate Maurice Turner, the National Anthem sung by Dixie Carter of "Designing Women," seafood terrine, filet of beef and rousing speeches by anyone with enough clout to get a seat at one of the four head tables: former senator Howard Baker, the dinner chairman; House Minority Leader Bob Michel, Vice President Dan Quayle.

Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole told the

audience the Senate had one birthday present for the president now—a vote earlier in the day to sustain the Amtrak bill veto—and three presents to come: a constitutional amendment to outlaw burning of the American flag, and Republican majorities in both the House and Senate.

President Bush responded with typical ease. "I understand that some of you circulated a petition complaining that the only reason I was invited to speak tonight is that I'm Barbara Bush's husband," he teased the crowd.

Charming the choir with promises of greater successes in the fall, Bush also stopped to acknowledge the one GOP official missing from the dinner, Republican National Committee Chairman Lee Atwater, recovering from treatment for a brain tumor.

"He's a real pro and I can't wait till he's back full-time in the saddle again, leading the party to more victories in the future."

After a toast to the president and a semi-rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" sung by the assembled—but not in unison—Bush was presented with what appeared to be a "Points of Light" electronic birthday card and a surprise from composer Marvin Hamlisch.

After trying to cope with two faulty microphones ("Why do I think we have a Democratic sound manager?"), Hamlisch introduced a song written especially for the president, "One Song," which he called a tribute to Bush's past year. "It acknowledges our differences but affirms our global unity." And then another surprise: pop star Whitney Houston and the 95 members of New York's La Guardia High School Concert choir to sing it.

It sounded very sincere. No beat. The perfect ending to a Republican night.

**Nomination of George Fleming Jones
To Be United States Ambassador to
Guyana**

June 12, 1990

The President today announced his intention to nominate George Fleming Jones, of Texas, 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 the Co-operative Republic of Guyana. He would succeed Theresa Anne Tull.

Since 1989 Mr. Jones has served as vice president for State Department affairs for the American Foreign Service Association in Washington, DC. Prior to this, he served as Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, Chile, 1985-1989; Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Embassy in San José, Costa Rica, 1982-1985; Director of the Office of Regional Political Programs, 1980-1982; Deputy Director of the Office of Regional Political Programs in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs at the Department of State, 1978-1980; National War College, 1977-1978; Political Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala, Guatemala, 1974-1977; and political adviser at the U.S. Mission to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, 1971-1974. In addition, he was assigned to the Department of State, 1967-1971, and served in the U.S. Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela, 1963-1966; the U.S. Embassy in Accra, Ghana, 1961-1963; and the U.S. Embassy in Quito, Ecuador, 1958-1960. Mr. Jones joined the Foreign Service in 1956.

Mr. Jones graduated from Wabash College (A.B., 1955), the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (A.M., 1956), and Stanford University (M.A., 1967). He was born June 27, 1935, in San Angelo, TX. Mr. Jones is married and resides in Fairfax, VA.

**Nomination of Richard V. Bertain To
Be an Associate Director of ACTION**

June 12, 1990

The President today announced his intention to nominate Richard V. Bertain to be Associate Director for the ACTION Agency

for the Office of Domestic and Anti-Poverty Operations.

Since 1978 Dr. Bertain has served as superintendent and assistant superintendent for business services for the El Segundo Unified School District in California. Prior to this, he served as assistant superintendent for business services for the Palm Springs Unified School District in California, 1978; management consultant and president of the American Educational Services in Los Angeles, CA, 1971-1978; deputy superintendent of schools, acting planning director, and special consultant to the superintendent for the Glendale Unified School District in California, 1969-1971; deputy of secondary schools and high school principal for the Culver City Unified School District in California, 1967-1969; and assistant to the superintendent of the Beverly Hills Unified School District in California, 1963-1967. In addition, he has served on the advisory council of the Boy Scouts of America and is a sustaining member of Young Men's Christian Association.

Dr. Bertain graduated from St. Mary's College (A.B., 1951), California State University (M.A., 1960), and Harvard University Graduate School of Education (Ed.D., 1964). He was born July 4, 1930, in Scotia, CA. Dr. Bertain served in the U.S. Navy, 1955-1957. He is married, has six children, and resides in West Hills, CA.

**Remarks at the President's Dinner
Reception**

June 12, 1990

Welcome, everybody, for many a return engagement. And Barbara and I are delighted to have you here. Once again, we're in your debt. First, let me single out our chairman of tonight's dinner, under the theory that you get a busy person to get in and get the job done. The committee, the blind committee—because nobody wanted to take the blame nor the credit—said, "We'll go get Howard Baker; we'll try." And sure enough he accepted, and sure enough I think tonight we have the most successful dinner ever.

And just to guarantee that—as I walked up here, I'm sure you wondered what the deep, dark secret was that Howard told me—that thanks to the generosity of Armand Hammer, to the tune of \$500,000, that we're now over the top and going strong. So, Armand, my great vote of thanks to you.

And that is a very nice supplement to what so many others have done, either through wearing out the telephone—guys like Jack McDonald, my old colleague in the House, who I understand is modestly standing back here but should be hanging from the rafters because of his performance, probably the leading ticket seller or participant in that manner, according to Howard. And then, of course, Carl Lindner and Dwayne Andreas—just stars in this, and I am very grateful to them. But in the same vein, I'm grateful to every single person here, you who did the heavy lifting out there and most of the work. So, thank you all very much because this comes at an important time in what we feel could be an historic year.

The dinner I hope will be fun if we can see each other across a rather intimate ballroom over there—[laughter]. But nevertheless, it's marvelous. Let me just say a word about it, and I really should defer to Don Nickles, who's our superb chairman on the Senate side, and Guy, on the House side, and, of course, the National Committee weighing in in a great way on all this, too. And I want to thank them. But they are better to comment on the day-to-day political activity.

But you know the litany: The party in power loses seats in an off year, historically. Well, we want to change that. And I had a report from both Senator Nickles and Congressman [Guy] Vander Jagt when I met in the Cabinet Room with the leadership of the party this morning on the Hill—our Hill leadership—Dole, Michel, et cetera. Without kind of putting too optimistic a spin on it, the Senate report was very strong, and the House report—where everyone knows we have a great difficulty because of the locking in of incumbency—even there, Guy was able to give us a pretty upbeat report.

And I can tell you I'm going to try to do my share. The Vice President has been magnificent—Dan Quayle—in what he's

been able to do in helping candidates raise money. The recruitment, I think I can say without putting words in the mouths of these two, has gone well. The party under Lee Atwater and Mary Matalin is pitching in. Jeannie Austin doing a good job on that as well. So, the team is together, and the importance of the year is enormous.

I don't want to overlook the Governors' races because they are key when you look at this concept of redistricting that we're going to have to grope with in the years ahead. And we have some very key Governors' races out there. And the Republican Governors Association has been active and strong in doing their part.

So, we're getting the assistance, and we're getting the financial support, thanks to the approach that many of you have taken to this. But again, the election is important. I know Howard Baker is probably better able to speak to this than anybody else here. But the difference between controlling one body in the Congress and not is night and day in terms of how a President can operate. And Howard saw it when he so effectively led the Senate majority when he was Senate leader. And you could move the agenda. The President would campaign on certain things, and then he'd be able to at least be sure they were considered.

The way it is now in the Senate, as Don knows, we're playing—our leader is doing a superb job. Bob Dole is just outstanding, and he and I are working very closely together for the same objectives. But the problem is, with the numbers the way they are, it is very difficult to get our agenda placed ahead of their agenda. And the result is we're often playing defense and trying to amend a proposal that's far different philosophically than what we would have proposed in the first place.

So, we're keeping working on it, and I'm very pleased that we've been able to get some things done. Sometimes you measure progress by keeping bad things from happening. And I don't know what's going to happen at 6:15 p.m. on our veto override. We've got a technical bill up there that has a technicality that even some of our own Republicans are having difficulty with. But we've been very lucky that the vetoes have been sustained and not overridden. We may

take one on the next few days

But generally stayed together very unhappy take that a step it a more optimistic take the offense that join us all those who come side of the ledger economy, free kinds of points.

I might—just know of the international as word on the sun with Gorbachev it—not that we've tough problems different. I told I frankly and, indeed, sitting about our differences without people other the way it

We've got di States, and I'm back there talking the three Baltic that that can be dialog going and lifted and then that are very important chev and the Soviet to the United States a freer, more open we can interact the economic side that is in the international know it is in the international an economy that change. But the them, in my view change and the come.

And so, the meeting a good one. We had a lot of subjects. On heart—they accept lead to a ban on chemical think is a very civil about in the year you to know that there were quite different

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take one on the chin here today or in the next few days on another issue.

But generally, the Republican side has stayed together enough to be able to negate very unhappy legislation. Now I'd like to take that a step forward this fall and make it a more optimistic process, where we can take the offense and get done the things that join us all together as Republicans, and those who come from a more conservative side of the ledger when it comes to the free economy, free market, and all of those kinds of points.

I might—just looking around the room, I know of the interest of so many here in the international aspects. I just would say a word on the summit meeting that we had with Gorbachev. I was very pleased with it—not that we solved all the problems, the tough problems of the Baltic States. We're different. I told him very candidly and very frankly and, indeed, at an open press conference, sitting side to side. We could talk about our differences without rancor and without people getting all upset with each other the way it used to be.

We've got differences on the Baltic States, and I'm very pleased that now he's back there talking to the three leaders of the three Baltic States. And I'm hopeful that that can be resolved so we can get a dialog going and get the economic blockade lifted and then move forward in these areas that are very important not just to Gorbachev and the Soviet Union but in my view to the United States. And I'm talking about a freer, more open trading system where we can interact with each other more on the economic side, because I firmly believe that is in the interest of our country. And I know it is in the interest of markets and of an economy that has got to change and will change. But the more we interact with them, in my view, the more dramatic the change and the sooner the change can come.

And so, the meeting with Gorbachev was a good one. We made some progress on a lot of subjects. One near and dear to my heart—they accepted our proposals that lead to a ban on chemical weapons, which I think is a very civilized thing to be talking about in the year 1990. And I just wanted you to know that the tone of these meetings were quite different than anything that has

transpired before, although the last Reagan-Gorbachev summit did have a very good climate, too.

The man is facing enormous problems at home. It is my view that we need to keep our eyes open, that we need to keep our country strong, that we don't want to be naive in the treatment with any country. But I just thought that you ought to know that the mood of it was good, and I think it will lead to an understanding on questions such as the Baltic States or a unified Germany being a full, participating member in NATO or whatever the question was. It's a wonderful challenge that so many of you—that all of you, really—have given me and, I would say, to the star of Wellesley, too, to represent this country at this very special time in our history. We like—I won't speak too confidently for Barbara—but we like every single minute of it. [Laughter]

It's a challenge, it's a great challenge, and I will never forget how we got here. And we got here just exactly through the generosity and commitment of people in this room, just as other future Senators are going to get to the Senate as a result of that same generosity, just as a wide new group of new courageous young Congressmen are going to get to the Congress for the same very reason.

So, once again, our heartfelt thanks to you for what you're doing. Thank you. And I look forward to seeing you all, I think, at a large dinner later on. Thank you for making it such a success.

Note: The President spoke at 4:37 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Jack McDonald, Carl Lindner, and Dwayne Andreas, members of the President's Dinner leadership committee, and Lee Atwater, Mary Matalin, and Jeannie Austin, chairman, chief of staff, and cochairman of the Republican National Committee, respectively. Mrs. Bush spoke at this year's Wellesley College commencement ceremony. The dinner was held later in the evening at the Washington Convention Center. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.