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mocracy from Russia to the Middle East to Haiti. I am excited about the promise of change. I am profoundly disturbed about the problems we have.

The only thing I ask you to do is, even if you disagree with me, never run away from the problems. I don't understand why in the United States of America, when we've got the violence we've got on our cities, we can't pass the Brady bill in the Congress and take these assault weapons out of the hands of teenagers. I don't understand why we can't do that. I don't understand why we don't have an education and training system that from the moment someone loses their job—because now people don't normally get the jobs they lost back; they have to find another job—is no longer an unemployment system, but is a reemployment system, and from the get-go, from the first day, from the first week, people are told, "Here are the new jobs of the future, and here are funds to train for them." I don't understand that. But if you will help me and you leave me in, I'll fix those two problems, because you will fix them, not me. We'll do it together.

And I could give you example after example after example of this. The thing I always love about being in the presence in any form or fashion of the Hispanic culture is that it is so life-affirming. It is so passionate. It is so real. It is so straightforward. I tell you, my friends, think about that event last Monday. Think about the passion, the feelings, the strength you have, what you worry about for your children and what you want for the future and say, if they can make peace, how can we in America walk away from our challenges? We're going to walk into them. We're going to conquer them. And the Hispanics in America are going to lead the way, lead the way in partnership with our administration and on every street and in every community of this country. I love what we can do, but I am troubled by the fact that we're not doing it. Let's seize every day we have to make the most of it. And always remember that peace agreement in the Middle East as a spur to us to make this country what it ought to be for our children.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:30 p.m. at the Washington Hilton.

Nomination for Assistant Secretaries of Commerce

September 16, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Raymond E. Vickery, Jr., as Assistant Secretary for Trade Development and Charles Meissner as Assistant Secretary for International Economic Policy at the Department of Commerce. The President also nominated Lauri Fitz-Pegado as Assistant Secretary and Director General of the Office of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service at Commerce.

"These talented individuals, experienced in their fields and committed to hard work, will offer strong support to Secretary Brown's team at Commerce," the President said. "I am pleased to have their help."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Deputy Director of the Peace Corps

September 16, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti, Charles R. Baquet III, a former Peace Corps volunteer, as Deputy Director of the Peace Corps.

"Like Peace Corps Director Carol Bellamy, Charles Baquet is a former volunteer who knows firsthand the possibilities and problems facing

the Peace Corps," the President said. "I am confident his experiences both as a volunteer and as a Foreign Service officer will serve him well as he works to ensure the Peace Corps meets its mission of helping others around the world."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks at the Children's National Medical Center
September 17, 1993

The President. Thank you. Well, Dr. Beard, I promise to free you of the paperwork if you will promise not to use your free time to run for President. [*Laughter*]

Mr. Brown and Ms. Freiberg, Dr. Beard, to all of you who helped to make our visit here so wonderful today, I want to thank this Children's Hospital for bringing us together this morning, for giving us a chance to see some of your patients and their parents and their friends and to witness the miracles you are working. I want to thank Ben Bradlee and Sally Quinn for calling Al and me and telling us to hustle more money for the hospital.

In my former life, when I was a Governor, my wife and I worked very hard for the Arkansas Children's Hospital. Some of you know it's one of the 10 biggest hospitals in the country, and every year we finished first or second in the telethon, even though we come from a small State. There's a lot of grassroots support for people who are doing what you're doing.

We built a tertiary care nursery at our hospital with State funds, the first time anything like that had been done. And I have spent countless hours in our Children's Hospital at home with my own daughter, with the children of my friends, sometimes their last day, sometimes their best day. And I am profoundly grateful to you.

I think the people in the press and maybe some others might have wondered today why in the wide world we would come to a children's hospital, with all of its gripping, wonderful, personal stories, to have an event about bureaucracy and paperwork. After you listen to a nurse say why she couldn't care for a sick child and a doctor plead for more time to be a doctor, maybe you know. There is an intensely human element behind the need to reform the system we have.

When we were upstairs and Dr. Grizzard and Ms. Mahan were showing us some forms, we looked at four case files that they said had $14,000 worth of work in them that were absolutely unrelated to the care of the patient. The doctor said he estimated that each doctor practicing in this hospital, 200 in total, spent enough time on paperwork unrelated to patient care every year to see another 500 patients for primary preventive care—times 200. You don't have to be a mathematical genius to figure out that's another 10,000 kids who could have been cared for, whose lives could be better.

People say to me, how in the world do you expect to finance universal coverage and cut Medicare and Medicaid? Let me say first of all, nobody's talking about cutting Medicare and Medicaid; we're talking about whether it doesn't need to increase at 16 percent or 12 percent or 15 percent a year anymore. And it wouldn't if we had some simplification so people could spend the time they have already got on this Earth doing what they were trained to do.

I've got a friend who is a doctor that I grew up with who happens to live in the area, who calls me about once every 3 months to tell me another horror story. And the other day, he called me and he said, "You had better hurry up and get this done." He said, "You know, I'm in practice with this other guy. We've got all of these people doing paperwork. Now we've hired somebody who doesn't even fill out any forms. She spends all day on the telephone beating up on the insurance companies to pay for the forms we've already sent in. We actually had to hire somebody to do nothing but call on the phone." He said, "I'm lost in a fun house here." [*Laughter*] He said, "I went to medical school to try to practice medicine. Now I've got to hire somebody who does nothing but call people on the phone to pay the bills