

President's Health

Q. How you feeling today?

Q. How are you today?

Q. Can you show it to us?

Q. Show it to us.

The President: Do you think I'm Lyndon Johnson?

Q. Have you given up coffee altogether, sir?

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

Q. Are you going to have caffeine withdrawal? [*Laughter*]

Note: The President spoke at 10:07 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to June Nichols, Acting Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration; award winners Joann Schulz, Leo LeBlanc, Mark Eilrich, Paul Hsu, and Bruce Walker; Patricia F. Saiki, Administrator of the Small Business Administration; and Stanley M. Saiki, the Administrator's late husband. The proclamation is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Exchange With Reporters on the President's Health

May 7, 1991

Q. Mr. President, how are you feeling, sir? And is your heartbeat back to completely normal?

The President: Back to normal, and I'm feeling great. And this is a photo op at which I do not take questions. [*Laughter*] Same old me. Thank you for inquiring.

Q. Do you want Fast Track to succeed? Don't answer that. [*Laughter*]

The President. Come on, Helen [Helen Thomas, United Press International]. [*Laughter*]

Note: The exchange began at 10:23 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters Following Discussions With President Mauno Koivisto of Finland

May 7, 1991

President Bush. President Koivisto, welcome again to the United States. It's a pleasure to try to return the hospitality you showed President Gorbachev and me in Helsinki last September. And we're very grateful for that hospitality, and I'd like to think that meeting was very constructive.

Our meeting today was only the latest of many exchanges that we have shared. It's been nearly a decade since you and I first met. Today, as always, I greatly value your view on world events and your efforts over many years to build the excellent relationship between the United States and Finland.

This visit, albeit very brief, gave me an

opportunity to thank you personally for Finland's constructive policy in the Middle East. Your country's strong leadership in the U.N. Security Council and the Iraqi Sanctions Committee last fall and your generous aid to the people suffering from Iraqi oppression represent Finland's fine tradition of active partnership in the community of nations.

This sense of responsibility led Finland, within a year of its admission to the U.N., to serve as part of the U.N. Emergency Force in 1956 following the Suez crisis. Finns have served bravely in virtually every peacekeeping force since then, contributing more troops than any other country. Your