

Anniversary of World War II. And thank you all for coming.

[At this point, the President signed the proclamation.]

Well, the deed is done. Thank you all

very much for being with us.

Note: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. The proclamation is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Nomination of Kenneth L. Brown To Be United States Ambassador to Ghana

June 4, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Kenneth L. Brown, of California, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Ghana. He would succeed Raymond Charles Ewing.

Currently Mr. Brown serves as Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. From 1987 to 1989, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State. Mr. Brown has served as consul general in Johannesburg, South Africa, 1984–87, and as

Ambassador to the Congo, 1981–84. In addition, Mr. Brown has served in several positions at the State Department, including Director, Central African Affairs, 1980–81; Deputy Director, United Nations Political Affairs, 1979–80; and Deputy Director of the Press Office, 1977–79.

Mr. Brown graduated from Pomona College (B.A., 1959), Yale University (M.A., 1960), and New York University (M.A., 1975). He was born December 6, 1936, in Seminole, OK. Mr. Brown is married, has three children, and resides in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

The President's News Conference

June 4, 1992

The President. I have a brief statement, and then I'll be glad to take questions.

Two months ago, I asked the Congress to cut almost \$8 billion in wasteful spending projects. Tonight I've just signed the cuts that Congress sent to me in response. It's not all that I asked for, but it is a start. Eight billion dollars sounds like a lot of money, and it is. But the fact remains: It isn't good enough, not by a long shot.

The American people know budget deficits threaten the long-term economic health of our country. Over the years, we've accumulated Federal debt totaling \$65,000 for every family of four in America. This debt does not create more wealth; it merely helps pay for our current consumption. It reminds me of the old fellow who bragged to his

family that he'd finally borrowed enough money to pay off his debts.

Our political system, as it is now, has failed to meet its responsibility to address this problem. In the face of a several hundred billion dollar budget deficit, a piecemeal approach simply will not do the job. We need a constitutional amendment to balance the Federal budget, and we need it now.

Three years ago, in my first address to the Congress, I asked the Senate and the House to pass such an amendment. Every year since then, I have repeated the call. Like President Reagan before me, I have tried to get Congress to act responsibly and to restrain the growth of Federal spending. We've tried compromise. We've tried con-