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from the top 6 percent of the income earners in the country, or stick with literally what I talked about in the campaign and risk not being able to do enough to really get interest rates down and try to get the economy going again.

It's a very tough call. It is not an easy call. But as you will see when you read in the papers about this trip I'm about to take to Japan, as tough a shape as we're in, we're doing better than Europe is. They're having negative growth. Japan's got the slowest growth they've had in 40 years. And all these people have been after us for 10 years to get our deficit down. They said, "If you'll get your deficit down, we'll do some things." And together we can grow the world economy.

So I'm doing the best I can, believe me. You may think I'm wrong, and maybe time will prove me wrong, but I'm trying to make the best decision I can to create jobs and incomes for the American people so that we come out ahead on this deal, not behind. It is a complicated, difficult time that the goal ought to be to ask every question in terms of: Is it good for jobs? Is it good for incomes? Will it help the economy to grow? Will it help people to have security and health care and educating their children and to make this a stronger and better country?

And on this, the Fourth of July, we're always going to have our partisan and philosophical differences, and that's what makes this country wonderful. But if we can always keep that goal in mind, then when we differ, at least we'll be arguing about the right things.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:30 p.m. at the Schneckloth farm. In his remarks, he referred to Iowa secretary of agriculture Dale M. Cochran and Iowa secretary of state Elaine Baxter.

Remarks on Departure From Moline, Illinois
July 4, 1993

I want to thank you all for coming out here and for waiting on the Fourth of July. What a wonderful gift it was for me to come back and see all of you here. I couldn't believe it.

As you know, I've been here reviewing the flood damage, meeting the families from both Illinois and Iowa. And I just wanted to tell you first of all, as someone who had grown up in a farming area and has seen this kind of flooding before, I know what it means. I know how hard it is. And we're determined to do everything we possible can to help the farmers in this area and the communities get through it. And when I get back from my trip to Asia, we'll be pursuing further legislation in the Congress to get some more aid to your farmers and your communities so that we can recover from this and go on. And I'm really appreciative of all the time that the people in this area gave me today to make sure that I understood what was going on.

The second thing I'd like to say to you is that for all the problems this Nation has on the Fourth of July, and we've still got a lot of them—there are an awful lot of people who are worried about their jobs, the security of their health care, the education of their children, the safety of their streets—I'm about to leave to go to a meeting of the world's richest countries where they think we're doing pretty well because our unemployment rate is lower than every country in Europe, we had a million more jobs coming into our economy since the first of the year, and we're finally doing something to bring our terrible Government deficit down and to prepare for our future. And I want you to know that tomorrow when I leave and get on that plane to go to Japan, I'm going to be over there working for things that I think will help to provide jobs and incomes and opportunity and hope for the American people.

These are very difficult and challenging times for our country. A lot of the problems we face are very complicated, and we could argue all day about what the right decisions are. But I promise you this: Every day when I go to work and I fight for our economic plan, which I think is fair and which I know will work, every decision I make I ask myself, is it going to help Americans to have more jobs, better incomes, more security, and a brighter future for their children? And if we could at least ask that ques-

tion—we can have all of the debates in the world—we'll keep our country going on the right track.

Don't forget this is still the greatest country in the world. And the next 20 years can be the best we ever had, if we have the courage to make the changes we've got to make to deal with all these challenges before us. I think we do. And after spending some time sitting on a bale of hay with a bunch of Iowa farm families tonight, I feel a lot better than I did when I got up this morning on this wonderful Independence Day.

Thank you all, and God bless you. And thank you for coming out.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:36 p.m. at the Quad Cities Airport. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the National Education Association in San Francisco, California
July 5, 1993

Thank you very much. Thank you for the warm reception you gave to the First Lady and to Secretary Riley. Thank you for inviting me back.

You know, last year when we were in Washington I was out in the crowd over there by the Nebraska delegation. Where are the Nebraska teachers this year, over there? And where are the teachers from Arkansas? Over there. Thank you. Always a rowdy group. [*Laughter*]

I want to thank all of you who teach our children, staff our schools, lead our communities, and build our future. I am very grateful for the support you gave in the campaign of 1992, grateful for the support and the work you continue to do as we work our way through the changes this Nation has to make in the Congress and in the country. But most of all, I want to say at the outset, what I tried to say all along the way last year: Perhaps more than any person who ever sought this job, I spent my apprenticeship in the schools of my State, in the schools of this country, listening to teachers talking with children, learning from principals, trying to inspire people everywhere to work together for reform. And I want to thank you most of all for your clear and simple devotion to the work of teaching.

While I was thinking about this speech, I received a quote from the novel, "The Prince of Tides." Secretary Riley gave it to me. I want to give him full credit. He'll probably have to take the blame for a thing or two along the way. [*Laughter*] But I love the "Prince of Tides"; it's my favorite novel I guess I've read in the last decade or so. And the main character is a teacher named Tom. There's a passage in the book that I remember vividly where he's asked why he chose to, quote, "sell himself short" when he was so talented and he could have done anything with his life. He replied, and I quote from Pat Conroy's eloquence: "There's no word in the language I revere more than 'teacher'. My heart sings when a kid refers to me as his teacher, and it always has. I've honored myself and the entire family of man by becoming a teacher."

I am delighted to be here with so many distinguished Californians, in addition to the teachers: Senator Boxer, Congresswoman Pelosi, Congressman Lantos, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, Speaker Willie Brown, controller Gray Davis, secretary of state March Fong Eu, insurance commissioner John Garamendi, Mayor Frank Jordan, Brad Sherman, and many others. To all those folks who are here in our administration and to Keith Geiger and all the people who work for you in Washington, I have a special word of thanks to the NEA for the gift of our Assistant Secretary for the Office of Education and Research and Improvement, Dr. Sharon Robinson, who is also here today.

For the past 5 months all of us have been working hard with you to change our country and to build our future. The film that you so graciously put together shows some of the progress that has been made; the family leave bill; the motor voter bill; a tough ethics set of rules for the executive branch; one House of Congress having already passed finally a lobby reform bill that requires all lobbyists to register