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is threatening to bankrupt many of you; to deal with the budget crisis, which is undermining the economic stability of every State in America; and to seize the opportunities that are out there.

The time I spent as a Governor and the time I spent working with you and those who preceded you was some of the best time I ever spent in my life. I look back on it with great pride and gratitude. And to all of you I say that I honor the work that you must do, and I look forward to being a real partner.

I'm delighted that you're here, and I hope you have a great time tonight as we move from the dinner into the entertainment. I want to say that I expect to have a special treat tonight for you in the entertainment. I think you'll all enjoy it very much.

But please know here that this house is your house, that I am well aware of the fact that I am just a temporary tenant, and that while here I intend to do my very best to be faithful to the lessons that I learned as a Governor that most of what you do ought to be done by you and not by us. And I will try to be a good partner, and I hope you will be mine, as we get this country to face its problems and seize its promise.

I now propose a toast to the Governors and their spouses, friends, and family members.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:13 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House.

Remarks in a Telephone Conversation Congratulating the Super Bowl Champion Dallas Cowboys

January 31, 1993

The President. Jerry?

Jerry Jones. Mr. President.

The President. How are you doing, man?

Mr. Jones. Bill, I'm telling you, I appreciate this call so much.

The President. Congratulations.

Mr. Jones. Thank you.

The President. I'll tell you what, this is a lot bigger deal at home than me getting elected President. [*Laughter*]

Mr. Jones. I'll tell you this right now, you were an inspiration to us.

The President. Great.

Mr. Jones. I saw how to get out on a knee and come back up swinging.

The President. Thanks, man. This is great.

Mr. Jones. Well, I really appreciate this call. And I've got Jimmy standing by me.

The President. Thanks. I've got somebody who wants to say hi to you, and then I want to talk to Jimmy.

Mr. Jones. Okay, fine.

Gov. Ann Richards. Jerry, it's Ann Richards. Listen, I got to watch the ball game in the White House with Mario Cuomo.

Mr. Jones. Ann, you are wonderful for calling us.

Governor Richards. It was absolutely wonderful. And let me tell you, we gave him the hardest time in the world.

Mr. Jones. Well, you've answered my question: You didn't go easy on him then, did you?

Governor Richards. No, darlin', we did not let our foot off his neck.

Mr. Jones. Did you tell him you hadn't been to one we lost? [*Laughter*]

Governor Richards. Here's the President. We're so proud of you. You tell Emmitt Smith that he's number one for me.

Mr. Jones. Thank you, Governor. Thank you. Hey, Mr. President.

The President. Yes, yes.

Mr. Jones. Thank you so much for calling. I can't tell you what it means.

The President. Thanks, Jerry.

Mr. Jones. And here's Jimmy. Here's Jimmy.

Jimmy Johnson. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. Jimmy, how are you doing? Congratulations.

Mr. Johnson. Well, thank you. I think you understand how much we put into this thing and where we are. I'll tell you, it's a great feeling for all of our guys.

The President. Well, you've come a long way in a short time and with a lot of courage. And I'll tell you, I watched your team all year long just basically wear everybody down by hanging in there, and it was amazing what you did.

Mr. Johnson. Well, you know a little bit about perseverance yourself, so I understand.

The President. Well, I really admire what you did. And this is a great night for you, and I want you to get back to your players. I just wanted to say hello and we're proud of you.

Mr. Johnson. Thank you a lot, Mr. President.

The President. Goodbye, Jimmy.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:59 p.m. from the State Floor at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and head coach Jimmy Johnson.

Remarks Following Entertainment at a State Dinner for the Nation's Governors

January 31, 1993

The President. Ladies and gentlemen, first I think we ought to acknowledge the musicians: Peter Howard, John Beal, Martin Erskine, John Redsecker, and Wally Harper. Let's give them a hand. [*Applause*] I'd also like to thank the people who put this wonderful program together: Marty Bell, Beverly Camhe, Phyllis Newman, and my good friend Bobbie Handman, who's here with her husband, Len, tonight and whose daughter and son-in-law have been so instrumental in our political life, Harold Ickes and Laura Handman. Let's give all of them a hand. [*Applause*] I want to thank Ms. Handman and Ms. Newman, in particular, for writing this; and for Peter Howard for his musical direction tonight.

And now let me say that I hope that we can take good care of this house and that this house will always be a house of America's family. I can't help but note, I don't want to embarrass Phyllis, but Phyllis and her husband, Adolph Green, who sang a little tonight—stand up, Adolph—[*applause*]—they're celebrating their 33d wedding anniversary. As you can see, he had to get not only her parents' permission but the law's as well to marry her at that young age. [*Laughter*]

Phyllis Newman. That's the nicest thing you've said. [*Laughter*]

The President. I understand that this is Governor Dean's wedding anniversary tonight, too, and I want to acknowledge that. This is Governor Mickelson's birthday.

This is also a very important birthday: Tonight is Carol Channing's birthday. I want all of us to sing "Happy Birthday" to her in just a moment, but I want to tell you that she performed here with George Burns for President and Mrs. Kennedy. She performed here when President Johnson was here. She made President Nixon's hate list, so she didn't perform then. [*Laughter*] We all knew about her in "Hello Dolly" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," where she immortalized that song that you heard about being a little girl from Little Rock. I wish she had been.

I'd like to ask us all now to stand and sing "Happy Birthday" to her. George, you come up here to lead the singing.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House.

Remarks Following a Meeting With the Nation's Governors

February 1, 1993

The President. Well, I want to say good morning to the members of the press who are here from Washington and many of you from around the Nation.

I'd like to read a statement and then call on the Governors, Romer and Campbell, to make a statement about the meeting we had here today and the actions which I will take today as a result of this meeting and the work that I have been doing over the last couple