Remarks Following Entertainment at a State Dinner for the Nation’s Governors  
January 31, 1993

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 33rd 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]

That’s the nicest thing you’ve said. [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

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