Nomination for Posts at the Departments of Education and Energy

April 28, 1993

The President announced today that he intends to nominate former San Francisco superintendent of schools Ramon Cortines to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Intergovernmental and Intergency Affairs and Jay Hakes, a top aide to Senator Bob Graham of Florida, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration.

“Ramon Cortines and Jay Hakes have both distinguished themselves as public servants in their own States and at the national level,” said the President. “I am grateful that they have agreed to continue their service as part of my administration.”

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission

April 28, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Arthur Levitt, Jr., owner of the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call and formerly chairman of the American Stock Exchange, as a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Once Mr. Levitt is confirmed as a member, the President intends to designate him Chairman of the SEC.

“Backed by 20 years of experience in high finance and newly introduced to the workings of Capitol Hill, Arthur Levitt is well prepared to take the helm at the SEC,” the President said. “I have full confidence he will use his office wisely to strengthen public confidence in our country’s financial agencies.”

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Members of the House Ways and Means Committee and an Exchange With Reporters

April 29, 1993

The President. Let me just make a brief remark, and then I’ll answer your questions.

First, I want to thank these members of the Ways and Means Committee for coming in for this meeting. This morning’s economic figures on the performance of the United States economy in the first 3 months of the year clearly, I think, support the policies of this administration. They support filling out and implementing the budget commitment that the Congress has made to reduce the deficit and to increase targeted investments and to generate jobs.

It also plainly proves, I think, that the administration was right in trying to hedge against this economic slow growth by passing the jobs bill that the House of Representatives passed and that the Senate wanted to pass. It proves that we were right in both reducing the deficit and in trying to create some jobs right now in this economy. But it also proves that the long-term interests of the country will be served if we fulfill our commitments on the budget.

The budget, I think, is well under way. The Ways and Means Committee had a good day yesterday. And I think we can continue to show our commitment to bring the deficit down and to target our investments in areas that will create jobs. We’ll have a long-term plan that’s good. But it also proves, I think clearly, beyond any doubt, that the strategy of the administration to create some more jobs right now was the right strategy. The American people still need