

a lot of time in Los Angeles, and I came out here to south central L.A. a long time before I ever ran for President, and sat down and met with community leaders before I was ever a candidate, before I ever thought I'd come back here. And I just want to tell you that I believe that we can do this, but we've got to do it from the grassroots up. I can pass all the laws in the world in Washington. And I would be remiss if I didn't recognize all these local leaders that are here, your State senators, county supervisors, and others that are here, and Mike Woo, our candidate for mayor who's here, and all these things.

And one of you said, "What about drugs?" And somebody said, what about something else? Let me tell you just one thing—we don't have time to talk about all of this, but when we start this program I told you about—it's called empowerment zones—the way you can get access to these kind of incentives is that the people at the grassroots level have to put together a plan and say, "Here's what we're going to

do." And it's not just enough to say, "We want all these incentives." You have to show how if we give you more police officers, you'll put them on the blocks and use them to help deal with the drug problem. You have to show how you're going to make the schools better if we give you more money to do that.

So, we're going to deal with all these issues, but you're going to have to say how you would deal with them. That's the way we're going to work it out: a new partnership where you control your destiny and we help you. Instead of telling you what to do, you're going to say what you want to do, and we're going to try to help you. And you'll be able to deal with drugs, with education, with a whole range of issues, but it all starts with finding people who will provide jobs. That's where we're going to begin.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:10 p.m. at the Playground, an athletic wear store.

Nomination for Posts at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service May 18, 1993

The President announced today his intention to nominate Mollie H. Beattie, the director of a Vermont public policy center and former State natural resources official, to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. In addition, the President announced that his longtime environmental aide Kenneth Smith has been appointed the Fish and Wildlife Service's Deputy Director.

"Secretary Babbitt and I have placed a high priority on finding new ways to protect biologi-

cal diversity without endangering economic growth," said the President. "The Fish and Wildlife Service will play a big role in that process. I have full confidence in the ability of Mollie Beattie and Ken Smith to do the hard work and the fresh thinking that needs to be done."

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

Exchange With Reporters During a Luncheon With Business Leaders May 19, 1993

Energy Tax

Q. Mr. President, do you think you can persuade these business leaders that your energy tax is a good tax and that you have enough spending cuts in the budget?

The President. Well, I hope so. Several of them endorsed this program yesterday. Mr.

Chee on behalf of the realtors did, and Mr. Armstrong, he's aircraft. Mr. Wolf did. So I think we're making a real good dent. I think the main reason is that the business leaders who are familiar with what is actually in the