

the small business community is the major generator of jobs in America, has been for the last 12 years. Their job-generating capacity has slowed recently because it costs a lot of extra money to hire an employee and because of uncertainties in the economy. I believe if we increase the small business expensing provision from \$10,000 to \$25,000 that for millions of small business people out there who are the backbone of this economy, they will then see the wisdom in continuing to invest, continuing to expand, and a lot of people might hire one more person, two more people, three more peo-

ple, in ways that will create jobs for the economy.

In the end this is a jobs package. So, there is an expensing provision in the Tax Code right now for small business. I just think it ought to be bigger, and I think it's a job generator.

I'll see you in a couple of days. I'm sorry. Thanks.

Q. In a couple of days?

The President. A couple of months. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President's 16th news conference began at noon in the Briefing Room at the White House.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Edouard Balladur of France

June 15, 1993

Cuba

Q. Mr. President, are you willing to talk to the Cubans about improving relations?

The President. I'm here with the Prime Minister of France. [Laughter]

Q. [Inaudible]—French about the Blair House agreement, Mr. President?

Q. [Inaudible]—Cubans' announcement today that they'd like to talk about reparations?

The President. I don't have any reaction at this time.

Trade Negotiations

Q. Do you think you can find common ground with the French about Blair House, sir? About the Blair House agreement?

The President. Well, I was very pleased to see that the oilseeds portion will go forward. But I think the rest of it we need to talk about. The United States supports the Blair House agreement.

[At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.]

President's Schedule

Q. Mr. President, are you going to France anytime in the near future?

The President. I wish I could go in the very near future, but I suppose that depends on when I can travel again. Of course, I have to go to the G-7 meeting in Tokyo, and that will be my first trip out of the country except for the brief visit to Vancouver with President Yeltsin. I'd very much like to go back. I haven't been in a long time.

NOTE: The exchange began at 3:35 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks to the College Democrats of America

June 15, 1993

I want to thank Adam Kreisel and Jamie Harmon and Jenny Ritter for this gift and for their leadership in the College Democrats, and I want to welcome all of you here. I know I'm not

the first person to speak to you. I've been over lobbying Members of Congress and being lobbied by them about various issues today, and I'm awfully glad to see all of you here.