Nomination for Posts at the Department of State
June 18, 1993

The President announced his intention today to nominate Ed Djerejian, a senior member of the Foreign Service, to be Ambassador to Israel. In addition, Secretary of State Christopher has asked Dennis Ross to be his Special Middle East Coordinator.

"This is a crucial time for the Middle East peace process," said the President. "It is imperative that the United States have talented diplomats working to ensure that the process continues to move forward. Ed Djerejian and Dennis Ross have my complete confidence."

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

Remarks on the 40th Anniversary of the Newport Jazz Festival
June 18, 1993

Thank you very much. I can say this, that when she’s listening to my jazz she wishes I would practice more. [Laughter] I am delighted to have all of you here at this, our first televised concert from the White House. Both Hillary and I are very excited and pleased to welcome you here. It’s especially appropriate that we should be together here at America’s house to celebrate that most American of all forms of musical expression, jazz.

One of the greatest things that ever happened to jazz was a simple 2-day event that took place in Newport, Rhode Island, way back in 1954. The Newport Jazz Festival was an immediate hit, and it grew and grew. It captured the imagination of young musicians all across the country and eventually across the world. No event has done more to nurture the careers of jazz artists; none has done more to thrill and delight jazz fans. The festival’s influence has been truly profound, inspiring more than 2,000 other jazz festivals every year all around the world. Indeed, the French Government recently recognized that impact when it awarded the festival’s producer the Legion of Honor.

Tonight we’re having our own White House jazz festival as a special tribute to the 40th year of Newport Jazz and, of course, to its founder and its fine producer, George Wein. George, stand up. Where are you? There he is.

You know, jazz is really America’s classical music. Like our country itself and especially like the people who created it, jazz is a music born of struggle but played in celebration. This unique musical and cultural art form is now more than a century old. It’s paused periodically in its evolution to give us ragtime and boogie-woogie and swing and bebop and cool and free jazz and fusion, only then to continue its restless rebirth into forms that have yet to be named or even imagined. Original and enduring, adapting and growing, jazz is simply one of our Nation’s greatest creations.

Many good people swing to the sound of jazz and rally to its cause, and one of them is our host tonight, the son of a jazz legend. In his father’s name, he’s established an institute which introduces young people to the beauty of jazz and encourages up-and-coming jazz musicians. And he is a brilliant musician in his own right and a good friend of the President and the First Lady. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Thelonious Monk, Jr.

At this point, Mr. Monk hosted the musical program.]

We want to say a wonderful, heartfelt, happy thank-you to all the performers; thank you to Thelonious Monk, Jr., the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, and its executive director, Tom Carter; and a very, very special thank-you to George Wein, the producer of the Newport Jazz Festival. Thank you for the wonderful tradition that you have created.

You know, if you look at the different ages and backgrounds of all the gifted performers assembled on this stage, we’re reminded once again that jazz is a true reflection of the Amer-
ican people, a music of inclusion, a music of
democracy, a music that embraces tradition and
the freedom to innovate. That’s a good thought
to end on.

Thank you all for coming, and good night;
bless you.

The President’s Radio Address
June 19, 1993

Good morning. For 5 months I’ve been fight-
ing hard for a national economic strategy to
build prosperity for all our people. And now
America’s on the move.

Just this week we scored several significant
victories for the American people in the Con-
gress. The Senate passed a campaign finance
reform bill that limits the influence of special
interests and their money in our lawmaking, and
in our campaigns. Congressional committees
have adopted my plan to make college loans
available to all students at lower interest rates
and better repayment terms and to make it pos-
sible for tens of thousands of them to pay off
those loans through national service to their
communities. Most important is the remarkable
progress being made on the economic plan to
increase growth, jobs, and incomes through bold
deficit reduction. Last month the House of Rep-
resentatives acted courageously to pass this plan,
and now the path has been cleared for action
by the Senate because the plan has passed out
of the Senate Finance Committee.

Make no mistake about it, Washington is fi-
nally moving to put our economic house in
order. If we want to get the economy back
on track, Congress must pass this plan. It’s nec-
essary, fair, and it’ll work.

When I first presented this growth plan back
in February, the financial markets took it seri-
sously, and we saw real improvements in eco-
nomic fundamentals, like interest rates. We now
have the lowest long-term interest rates in 20
years. Mortgage rates are at a 20-year low, and
now middle class homeowners are refinancing
their mortgages, and some are receiving more
than $2,000 in annual savings when they do.
Housing sales are at a 7-year high, and employ-
ment in the construction industry is up 130,000
people in just the last 4 months. That’s the
largest increase in 9 years. Inflation is stable,
and more than three-quarters of a million new
jobs have been added to the economy in the
first 4 months of our administration. Ninety per-
cent of them are in the private sector. And
unemployment is finally below 7 percent for
the first time in a year and a half.

What explains these optimistic signs? For the
first time in many years, we’re making tough
choices. Our plan makes historic cuts in Federal
spending, $250 billion in spending cuts in more
than 200 specific programs. We cut virtually
every part of the domestic, defense, and foreign
aid budgets, including agriculture, veterans,
Federal retirement and compensation plans,
Medicare, not because we want to but because
we have to and because it’s the right thing to
do.

Because our program is balanced and fair,
it also raises taxes to avoid unfair cuts that will
damage the elderly, the working poor, and other
vulnerable people in our country. But unlike
the 1980’s, when the rich paid less and the
middle class paid more, we’re asking the wealthy
to pay their fair share to give the middle class
a fair shake. Seventy-five percent of the taxes
are paid by those in the upper 6 percent of
income brackets, those who exceed $100,000 in
annual income. Two-thirds of these taxes are
paid by individuals whose incomes exceed
$200,000. Under this plan, the very wealthiest
Americans will pay an additional $1,900 a
month, while middle income families will pay
only $17 more a month by 1998 and much,
much less between now and then.

If you’re keeping score, this is how the pro-
gram works: For every $10 in deficit reduction,
we cut $5 in spending, raise $3.75 in taxes from
the wealthiest Americans, and ask the middle
class for $1.25. Let me say that again: For every
$10 in savings, we cut $5 of spending, ask the
wealthiest Americans for $3.75, and the middle