

with the rank of Ambassador.

“In addition to earning her place in our own country’s political history, Geraldine Ferraro has been a highly effective voice for the human rights of women around the world,” said the President. “As alternate head of the U.S. delegation to this year’s session of the UNHRC, she spoke eloquently on behalf of women in the

former Yugoslavia and brought all of the parties involved to a consensus position. I look forward to her continuing her strong and much-needed advocacy in this new position.”

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

Nomination for United States District Court Judges

October 22, 1993

The President announced the nomination today of his choices for four U.S. District Court vacancies: Donetta Ambrose and Gary Lancaster, both for the Western District of Pennsylvania; Wilkie D. Ferguson for the Southern District of Florida; and Charles A. Shaw for the Eastern District of Missouri.

“I am committed to giving the American people a Federal judiciary marked by excellence,

by diversity, and by a concern for the personal security and civil rights of all Americans,” said the President. “With these nominations today, we are giving just that to the people of Pennsylvania, Florida, and Missouri.”

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

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters on Haiti

October 23, 1993

The President. I wanted to give you what I think is a more precise answer to your question. I was, of course, aware of the allegations; they were reported today in the press. But the question of whether he was fit to serve seems to me was reinforced by the personal experience that Ambassador Pezzullo, my Special Envoy on the subject had, plus everyone else in the administration in working with him, plus the fact that during the time when he served as President, political terrorism and abuses went down in Haiti, not up. So based on the personal experiences of the people in the administration who worked with President Aristide, we felt that they were a more valid indicator than the allegations that were reported.

Q. Mr. President, you aren’t saying the allegations aren’t true?

The President. No one knows whether they’re true or not. They were allegations. We don’t know if they were true or not. I’m just saying based on the personal experiences of a lot of

people in this Government and before me even, before I became President, we had sustained experience—that the experiences of the people who were working with Aristide, plus what is the evidence that we have at least of the conduct of the administration when he was in office, tended to undermine those reports.

Q. What sort of credibility does the CIA report have then, the one that’s been circulated on the Hill?

The President. Well, they were required to do what they had to do, which is to report whatever information they’d been given. And the CIA would be the first to tell you that they get a lot of information—it’s not always accurate, but they have to give what they have to the intelligence committees, just as they do to the President. That’s the law.

Q. Well, Mr. President, what do you think it’s going to take for this to go away as far as the public is concerned and even Capitol Hill?