

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With California Democratic Gubernatorial Nominee Kathleen Brown

June 23, 1994

The President. Let me say first it's a pleasure for me to have Kathleen Brown here in the White House, to have an opportunity to talk about the many issues and challenges facing California, what we can do to work on them together. I want to congratulate her on her win in the primary, and I look forward to working with her.

California Gubernatorial Campaign

Q. Are you planning to campaign for Ms. Brown?

The President. If she asks me to, I will. That's up to her.

Ms. Brown. I'm asking. I'm asking. [Laughter] Come ride our bus.

The President. I'm in California a lot, you know, and I expect to be back a lot. And I'm encouraged by the signs that our economic program is beginning to take hold in California. I'm encouraged by the very rapid work that was done to get the investments into southern California after the quake. I'm encouraged by a lot of the work that's being done in defense

conversion in California. And I'm encouraged by the increasing exports coming out of California and going into the rest of the world. But there's still an awful lot to be done, so I expect to be there quite a lot.

World Cup Soccer

Q. What about the World Cup?

The President. I'm elated, aren't you? That's right, the United States won in California. It's great. I'm so excited about it. I went to the opening game in Chicago, you know, between Germany and Bolivia. And my daughter got me interested in soccer years ago, but I'm about to get totally hooked.

I like this American team. You know, it reminds me of my campaign: They're kind of the underdogs, and they're coming on, and I'm really very hopeful for them now.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:15 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Message to the Senate on the Impact of the Chemical Weapons Convention on the Use of Riot Control Agents

June 23, 1994

To the Senate of the United States:

Upon transmitting the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) to the Senate November 23, 1993, I indicated that the Administration was reviewing the impact of the Convention on Executive Order No. 11850, of April 8, 1975, which specifies current U.S. policy regarding the use of riot control agents (RCAs) in war, and would submit the results of that review separately to the Senate. The purpose of this letter is to inform the Senate of the outcome of that review.

Article I(5) of the CWC prohibits Parties from using RCAs as a "method of warfare." That phrase is not defined in the CWC. The United States interprets this provision to mean that:

—The CWC applies only to the use of RCAs in international or internal armed conflict. Other peacetime uses of RCAs, such as normal peacekeeping operations, law enforcement operations, humanitarian and disaster relief operations, counter-terrorist and hostage rescue operations, and noncombatant rescue operations conducted outside such conflicts are unaffected by the Convention.

—The CWC does not apply to all uses of RCAs in time of armed conflict. Use of RCAs solely against noncombatants for law enforcement, riot control, or other noncombat purposes would not be considered as a "method of warfare" and there-