

the Persian Gulf there, in the desert, and all those soldiers from other countries looking at them. I wish you could see the faces of the Haitians holding up their little “Thank you, America” sign when President Aristide went home and democracy came back to those people. They aren’t cynical about America.

Folks, 90 percent of the cynics about America are in America. They listen to people who are screaming all the time, who are shouting all the time, who are trying to divide this country all the time. Let me tell you something. This is a very great country, and its best days are ahead of it. Our best days are ahead of us.

We have challenges ahead of us. We do not need the easy promises and the failed policies of the past. We need to say, “This is America. We’re getting this economy going. We’re educating our people. We’re making this Government work for average Americans again. This

world is going to be safer and more prosperous. We are going into the future.”

Say no to the failed policies of the past. Say yes to going to the future. Say no to fear and yes to hope. Say no to the people who are always trying to denigrate everything we do to move this country forward. And say yes to Bob Carr and the other Democrats who are running for you and your future.

Thank you, and God bless you all. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:31 p.m. in the Cobo Hall Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Dennis W. Archer of Detroit; Howard Wolpe, candidate for Governor; Debbie Stabenow, candidate for Lieutenant Governor; Conrad L. Mallett, Jr., candidate for Michigan Supreme Court chief justice; and singer Jennifer Holiday.

## Interview With Dominic Carter of New York 1 Television, New York City *November 1, 1994*

*Mr. Carter.* Thank you for appearing here on New York 1, sir.

*The President.* Thank you. Glad to do it.

### *Midterm Elections*

*Mr. Carter.* Mr. President, this has been a bitter, nasty campaign season across the country in which Republicans have made you the issue of local races in commercials linking you directly to the local Democrats. While many Democrats have held open arms to campaign with you, some have kept their distance. How do you feel that you are the direct target, your administration?

*The President.* Well, they’ve worked hard on this for a long time. The Republicans tend to be a Presidential party, and they are unfortunately now very extremist, very negative, and that’s what they’ve tried to do. But you know, there is beginning to be a backlash.

First of all, the American people see that I am keeping the commitments I made to them in 1992. In 21 months, we have moved the country forward. We’re making the Government work for ordinary Americans with things like family leave and college loans. We’ve reduced the debt. We’ve reduced the size of the Federal

Government. We’ve got more jobs coming into this economy. The world is safer and more prosperous than it was when I took office. People are feeling that, and I don’t believe they’re going to buy these Republican promises in this contract, this \$1 trillion worth of hot check promises to go back to the 1980’s and trickle-down economics.

I also would point out, Dominic, you know, there is beginning to be some division within the Republican ranks. People are recoiling; good Republicans are recoiling from this extremism and this negativism. That’s why former First Lady Nancy Reagan hit Oliver North and, of course, Mayor Giuliani supporting Governor Cuomo—I think a very statesman-like decision—Mayor Riordan out in Los Angeles supporting Senator Feinstein, Mrs. Heinz in Pennsylvania attacking the Republican candidate for Senator up there.

There are a lot of good Republicans who do not like what has been happening in our country, and they don’t like seeing the Republican Party being so negative, so bitterly partisan, and so extremist. So I think we’ve got a chance in the last 8 days to get a real vote for the

future and not a vote for the past. And I'm very hopeful.

*Mr. Carter.* Mr. President, you touched upon a couple of topics that I want to get to, but just yesterday you were campaigning for Democrats in Pittsburgh, and we're told that you're headed to New York once again to campaign Thursday for Mario Cuomo.

The last time you were here, you said Mr. Cuomo is a national treasure, that he's New York's treasure. How do you explain him being in the tough battle against George Pataki?

*The President.* Well, I think, first of all, he has been Governor. And after you've been Governor awhile, you'll pick up your fair share of enemies if you take on the tough decisions and you deal with the tough issues.

Secondly, as we all know, Senator D'Amato and Mr. Pataki, their group, they're very good at attacking their opponents and they've done a good job of that. But I think Governor Cuomo is coming back. And I think if you look at the action that Mayor Giuliani took, he was a person who had to say, "Look, never mind all this negative back-and-forth, how are the people of my city going to live, and are they going to be

better off depending on who the Governor is?" So he endorsed Governor Cuomo.

When I said Governor Cuomo was a national treasure but is New York's treasure first, I would just remind the voters of New York who wonder whether he really wants to be Governor again that I offered him a chance to have a very different career in Washington, DC, and he rejected it to stay with New York, because he wanted to have a chance to be Governor while he has a partner in the White House, someone really committed to helping improve the fortunes of the people of New York.

That was clear evidence to me that his heart was first, foremost, and forever with the people of New York, and I think that they'll be very well pleased with his performance in the next 4 years if they'll give him a chance to be Governor.

*Mr. Carter.* Thank you very much, Mr. President. We'll see you in New York on Thursday.

*The President.* Thank you.

NOTE: The interview began at 2:57 p.m. The President spoke by telephone from the Westin Hotel in Detroit, MI. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Interview With Ken Herrera and Jayne Bower of WWJ Radio, Detroit, Michigan

November 1, 1994

*The President.* Hello, Ken.

*Mr. Herrera.* Can you hear me all right?

*The President.* I can hear you fine, thanks.

### *President's Approval Rating*

*Mr. Herrera.* You know, I wanted to start this out with kind of a lengthy question. As I looked at your list of accomplishments in office—and let me list a few: 4.1 million new jobs in the economy in the first 17 months of the administration; 2 consecutive years of budget reductions; new tax cuts to 90 percent of small businesses; a low inflation rate, lowest in 20 years, in fact; the signing of the student loan reform act; the passage of the crime bill, including the assault weapons ban, millions of dollars for local law enforcement; the victories that you've scored in foreign policy affairs, in Haiti,

the Persian Gulf, North Korea, the Middle East, and all that—do you ever find yourself sitting back at the White House and wondering, "What the heck do I have to do to have high approval ratings?"

*The President.* Well, you know, they're coming up. I think what you have to do is, the people have to know it. They have to know it, and they have to believe it. And I think that we had lots and lots of evidence that even now not all these things have been known. But as people know more and believe more, then they tend to want to support what I'm trying to do for our country and the Members of Congress who are supporting that direction as well. I think that if you look at just the things you mentioned, when I ran for President, I said that if I were elected, I'd try to make the Government work