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Mr. Espy and I are neighbors, and we share a border of the Mississippi River. For almost all the history of this country our two States were the poorest States in America. When agriculture collapsed there in and after the Great Depression, the people who loved my State more than life were forced to leave in huge numbers. As a matter of fact, it's the only way I got elected President. Every third voter in Illinois and Michigan and in the inland empire in California was from Arkansas. [*Laughter*] But it bespoke a terrible inability to manage a process of change so that people could stay with their roots and their culture and their lives.

Then we got everything going again. And then when he and I came of age in the early eighties and began to assume positions of responsibility, we had another horrible structural collapse in the rural areas and the small towns along the Mississippi River because agriculture and the labor-intensive, low-scale, low-wage industries both collapsed at the same time. And our little towns were turned into ghost towns. We had whole counties, county after county after county, with 20, 25 percent unemployment.

What we found was when we talk about managing the process of change, it was like a lot of what Nadine and others have said. Mike, you showed us those pictures. You had people who knew they had to change or they ought to change, but they had a relatively low skill level. They had limits on what kind of opportunities you could immediately put in the small towns, what the Mayor talked about, and they had a horrendous aversion to moving because their life was more than their livelihood. And then it all became complicated by the incredible pressures on family life, which led more and more families to disintegrate under the burden. And Mike and I literally began our careers dealing with the broken pieces of people's lives against that background.

I say that only to make this point: I cannot repeal the laws of change. In every State in every area of this country the average 18-year-old will change the nature of work seven or eight times in a lifetime now, in a global economy. People who take jobs as bank tellers, for example, even if they keep working for the banks, 10 years after they started what they do will be different because of technology and because of the changes in the economy.

But what we have to find a way to do is to try to make it possible for more people to be faithful to their cultural roots and their way of life and to work through this process in a human way. And if you look at it, there's a lot of analogy here to all these defense workers that are on the food lines in southern California now. I mean, they did what they thought they were supposed to do. They won the cold war, and then we just cut back on defense spending. There they were in the street; nobody had even a theory about how they might go through the kind of process Larry described and be given the opportunity to reclaim their own destiny.

I don't pretend that any of this is easy, but I want you to know that at least some of us have a feel for what this must be like in those little towns. And we'll do what we can.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:57 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center.

Proclamation 6540—Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A., 1993

April 2, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As America approaches a new century, we face hard truths and must take strong steps. As a Nation, we must provide hope for all Americans and opportunity for them to compete and to succeed. A sound, well-rounded education that prepares students for achievement and success is a moral imperative and an economic necessity.

The United States must work to improve the quality of education for all students, to ensure access and opportunity, and to build public-private partnerships, all of which will help students meet high standards of achievement. Accomplishing that mission will require the involvement of everyone—

not just teachers and administrators, but every person, every family, and every community. We must take responsibility for ensuring the success of generations to follow. I commend the leadership and commitment of those inside and outside of schools who are working each day to promote and encourage excellence in education for all Americans.

Our Founders saw themselves in the light of posterity. We must do the same. John Kennedy reminded us that civilization is a race between education and catastrophe—and it is up to us to determine the winner.

To recognize the work of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the leader of the Lubavitch movement, on the occasion of his 91st birthday on April 2, 1993, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 150, has designated April 2, 1993, as ''Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A.'' and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim April 2, 1993, as Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A. I call upon the people of the United States, government officials, educators, and volunteers to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:24 p.m., April 2, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 6.

Announcement of Nomination for Three Sub-Cabinet Posts at the Department of Justice

April 2, 1993

The President announced his choices today for several senior positions at the Department of Justice. He intends to nominate Philip Heymann to be Deputy Attorney General. He is nominating Webster Lee Hubbell to be Associate Attorney General and Drew S. Days, III to be Solicitor General.

''The team that Attorney General Reno and I are putting together at the Justice Department is talented, strong, and ready to move forward quickly to tackle the many difficult issues the Department faces.'' said the President. ''With this core group in place, we can move forward to make an independent, aggressive force working to achieve justice for all Americans and safe streets across our country. I hope that the Senate will quickly confirm these outstanding individuals.''

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

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

March 27

In the evening, the President attended the Gridiron Dinner at the Capital Hilton.

March 28

In the morning, the President traveled to Little Rock, AR.

March 30

In the afternoon, the President returned to the White House from Little Rock, AR.

The President made available fiscal year 1993 emergency appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture and Education to provide assistance to victims of recent natural disasters.

April 1

In the morning, the President traveled to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, where he had lunch with the midshipmen.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Portland, OR, where he stayed overnight.