AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

Week Ending Friday, August 13, 1993

Statement on Meeting With Mario Chanes de Armas

August 6, 1993

I am honored to welcome to this house and to this country one of the heroes of our time. Mario Chanes de Armas was freed from prison in Cuba after having spent three decades as a political prisoner of the Castro regime. He is a living testimony to the unbending will to strive for liberty and dignity.

He sacrificed the best years of his life to the ideal that he and his fellow citizens will be free. The full might of dictatorship was brought to bear against him. Yet, it could not break his spirit. It is men and women like him who have built our land into a beacon of freedom and hope for the oppressed peoples of the world.

Our meeting today is a symbol to those brave Cubans who remain in prison on political charges or who struggle daily, risking their lives, for the twin causes of human rights and democracy. Our message to these courageous people is simple: The United States will not rest until all of the peoples of this hemisphere enjoy the fruits of freedom and democracy.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

August 7, 1993

It's a bright, sunny day in Washington in more ways than one. The political fog that has surrounded this town for so long is at long last lifting. For months we've all been working for this day, a day when we can say to the American people that our Government is getting on with the business of creating jobs, expanding the economy, and doing better by all the American people.

Members of the House and the Senate showed our Nation how Government for the people can actually work for the people. They took the courageous step of breaking gridlock, passing my economic plan, and putting our Nation on the road to long-term growth.

This plan plants us firmly on the path to getting so many good things done for our people. For the first time in a long time, we'll be making a meaningful downpayment on the massive Federal deficit, and as we reduce that deficit by nearly $500 billion over 5 years, with more spending cuts than tax increases, we'll be strengthening the foundation for our future at home and our position in the world economy.

For the first time in a dozen years the weight of the tax burden will be shifted so that it is borne more fairly. Middle class working families will pay about a dime a day to bring the deficit down in the form of a 4.3-cent gasoline tax—no hidden taxes, no games, no gimmicks.

But 80 percent of the new revenues will come from those who can best afford to pay, with family incomes over $200,000 a year. Those people got over half the economic gains, over half the economic gains of the 1980's and big tax breaks besides. We don't want to punish success. We want to reward it. But in order for all Americans to have a chance to succeed, we have to bring the deficit down, and it's only fair to ask those best able to pay to do so. If family income is less than $200,000 a year, there will be no increase in income taxes.

For the first time in a decade, we're also making a serious effort to invest in our children, to reward work over welfare, to strengthen our families, and to give real incentives to businesses to grow new jobs. Analysts project that our economy will create 8 million new jobs now in the next 4 years. We're keeping interest rates down and giving real, real incentives for people to invest in

new business, research and development, and new plant and equipment.

For all these reasons this plan is an urgent step. But I want to emphasize, it is only the first step. We're well on our way, but our work is far from finished. We'll continue to look for ways to further cut unnecessary spending and trim waste. On that front, we will remain tireless, responsible, and accountable to you.

Soon we expect the Vice President's report on reinventing Government. It will help make your Government leaner, smarter, more efficient. It will show you that we're trying to have a Government here that actually works for the people who pay the bills and takes how their money is spent very seriously.

We want to end welfare as we know it and restore dignity to millions of idle Americans who have been dependent too long. We'll do that by changing the system so it's a path to a job, not a way of life. The economic plan went a long way toward doing that by lifting all the people in this country, millions of them, who work 40 hours a week and have children in their homes, out of poverty, not through a Government program but through the tax system, saying we won't tax people into poverty, we'll use the tax system to lift those out of poverty who are prowork, profamily, and doing their part.

And we cannot rest while millions of American do without affordable health care and many, many millions more worry that they won't be able to afford the cost of their health care policy or that they'll lose their health care coverage if they lose their job or someone in their family gets sick. It's not right. And until we give all Americans health care that's always there and control the cost, the health care crisis will continue to bankrupt our businesses, our families, and eventually our Nation.

So we'll keep moving as fast as we have in these first 6 months of the administration and keep taking new ideas to the American people for making our country better and putting our people first. With your support we've already moved on several fronts to ensure the principles that I fought for during the last campaign: providing opportunity, encouraging personal responsibility, and rebuilding our communities.

Just this week, our national service program cleared its final hurdles and now will clearly become law. That means 100,000 young people will have the chance to help America's communities while helping themselves pay for a college education. Also this week the Family Leave Act went into effect. And now millions of American workers will be able to take some time off to care for their newborn children or an ill family member without fearing loss of their jobs. In our Nation, where most people have to work, we cannot force people to choose between being a good parent and a good worker. Now millions more will be able to do both.

We've also won passage of a new motor voter law to make voter registration more easy, more open, more accessible. We've eased the credit crunch for small businesses all across America, making student loans easier to get and less costly to repay and working to open markets overseas to create jobs here at home. We've also changed the environmental policies of this administration so that once again America is a leader, not a follower, in the effort to preserve the global environment and our environmental issues here at home. We've made medical research more sensitive to the needs of women and more helpful to people with diabetes, Parkinson's, and other diseases where political bias kept research that was very needed from going on for too many years. We changed the ethics of the executive branch with the toughest ethics restrictions in American history, restricting people from lobbying for foreign governments or lobbying at all for years after they leave top positions in our Government.

There is more political accountability and more political reform on the way. Campaign finance reform, lobby reform, the line-item veto, all three of these things have passed at least one House of Congress. We're going to work hard to make them law. With these and other measures to better the lives of our people, we're putting business-as-usual out of business in Washington. That's what you ordered in the last election.

This week the majority of the lawmakers on Capitol Hill joined us to break gridlock. They voted to move us forward together, to

leave behind the shameful legacy of debt and deficits, and to give our Nation control over our own economic destiny. I congratulate those lawmakers for the courage they've shown in winning this tough fight in the face of all kinds of charges and misinformation that fill the airwaves. These people stood firm. They stood together. And they stood for you.

As we fought for this plan, we brought together business and labor, the cities and the heartland, Americans from every generation. Now, on the threshold of a new era of growth and prosperity and a new direction for our Nation, it's time for all of us to stand together. And that includes those who opposed my plan on Capitol Hill.

To our critics there I say, all Americans, whatever their political stripe, can reap the benefits of the change we can begin today. I say to those critics, we must now put aside bitterness and rancor, move beyond partisanship, and work together to give the country we all love the new direction it needs. In the future, people will not ask whether we were Democrats or Republicans, whether we were conservatives or liberals. They will ask what we did to face our problems, meet our challenges, seize our opportunities, and secure a better future for our children. Let us begin that together.

Thanks for listening, and Godspeed.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Statement on White House Staff Changes

August 7, 1993

I appreciate the outstanding work Regina Montoya has done as the Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

When I asked Regina to join my administration, I knew she was sacrificing a great deal to leave a successful legal career and her family in Dallas. When she informed me she was contemplating returning to Dallas because of the difficulty the commute has placed on her family, I was supportive of her decision to reunite her family.

I applaud her decision and thank her for the hard work and dedicated service she gave her country and wish her happiness and success in the future. And I look forward to calling on her for her insight in the future.

I am also very pleased that Marcia Hale has agreed to take on this new responsibility. Marcia has been a strong team player, a dedicated worker, and a valued adviser in her capacity as Director of Scheduling and Advance. Her background in State government and experience in consensus-building and solving local issues will make her a forceful advocate for local and State interests. I look forward to Marcia's trusted counsel, analysis, and judgment in this new and exciting endeavor.

NOTE: The White House press release also included statements by Regina Montoya and Marcia Hale.

Nominations for United States Court of Appeals Judges

August 7, 1993

The President yesterday nominated three U.S. Court of Appeals judges: Martha Craig Daughtrey for the sixth circuit, Pierre N. Leval for the second circuit, and M. Blane Michael for the fourth circuit. In addition, the President also announced the nominations of U.S. District Court judges for Maryland, South Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, the Eastern District of New York, the Eastern District of Virginia, the Eastern District of Kentucky, and the Eastern District of Arkansas.

"There are few things that I will do that will have more lasting effect than the appointment of Federal judges," said the President. "Along with Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court and the many other judges yet to be named, this outstanding group of jurists will change the face of the Federal courts and help move our country forward."

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