

I want to thank all of you here who are lenders, who have worked on these programs. The folks up here on this platform are the kind of people I ran for President to try to help. And I am deeply moved by what we have seen today. It kind of reinforces my belief that these programs are on the right course and that we can make a huge difference, that there are millions of people out here, literally millions, who could be employed and empowered if we had the systems in place and the people there who felt comfortable making loans and making these kinds of judgments and understood what had to be done.

And I thank all of you for being part of a genuine American experiment. I wish you well. I ask you to redouble your efforts. We'll redouble ours, and I know the Congress will make sure that we get what we need to make these programs succeed. I thank you all. And I thank you, Senator Bumpers, Senator Pressler, for being here. We're adjourned. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:05 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to small business owners Geraldine Janes and Chris and Regina Welch.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Richard von Weizsäcker of Germany

May 24, 1993

Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, have you been surprised or disappointed by the reaction in Bosnia and Serbia—

The President. You mean, the opposition to it?

Q. The opposition and the initial support from Mr. Karadzic.

The President. No, it's about like I expected it to be.

Q. —U.N. observers into Serbian territory, how does that complicate things?

The President. I don't want to say any more about it now. I want to talk to the President about it. We'll try to just absorb what has been said and make the appropriate deci-

sion. But I'm not particularly surprised by the various responses—

Q. Mr. President, do you hope this week goes better than last week?

The President. We had a good week last week. The Ways and Means Committee voted the bill out—signed the motor voter bill.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:05 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 Congress Transmitting the District of Columbia's Budget Requests

May 24, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, I am transmitting the District of Columbia Government's 1994 budget request and 1993 budget supplemental request.

The District of Columbia Government has submitted a 1994 budget request for \$3,389 million in 1994 that includes a Federal payment of \$671.5 million, the amount authorized and requested by the Mayor and City Council. The President's recommended 1994 Federal payment level of \$653 million is also included in the District's 1994 budget as an alternative level. My transmittal of the District's budget, as required by law, does not represent an endorsement of its contents.

I look forward to working with the Congress throughout the 1994 appropriation process.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
May 24, 1993.