

elected and reelected. And I think we have the right policy there, where we're trying to advance both our security partnership and our economic interests and still stick up for democracy and freedom that we all believe in. You are responsible for that.

The second point I want to make, very briefly—it looks like the rain is coming again—is that in these elections, we're going to try to elect more Democrats to the House, to the Senate, and to the Governor's office. We're going to try to defend the incumbents that are up for reelection. I honestly believe, and any major national survey will show, that nearly two-thirds of the American people agree with us on virtually every significant question. And the attacks that Republicans have raised against Democrats—that we were weak on the economy; we couldn't be trusted on the deficit; we never met a tax we didn't like; we were weak on welfare and crime; we couldn't be trusted with foreign policy—all that has no salience anymore.

So, if we can convince the American people that by electing more Members to the House and Senate, they can have more of the progress they like instead of the partisanship they deplore in Washington day-in and day-out, instead of letting them get carried away by the kind of emotional, negative, but unfortunately, very powerful tactics that our adversaries used in the last 2 or 3 weeks of every election, you can take pride that the next 2 years can produce even more progress than the last 6 have. That's what I want you to think about. That's what you've been here for. And I am profoundly grateful. Thank you very much.

Now show everybody the Democrats have enough sense to get in out of the rain. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:10 p.m. at a private residence. In his remarks, he referred to Fred and Lisa Baron, dinner hosts. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Death of David J. McCloud

July 26, 1998

Hillary and I were greatly saddened to learn of the death in a plane crash of Lieutenant General David J. McCloud, Commander, Alaskan Command. He hosted us several weeks ago at Elmendorf Air Force Base on our way to China and proudly described for us the mission his command carries out in furtherance of our national security interests. General McCloud was a superb airman and an exemplary leader. He helped ensure that our forces from all of the military services were prepared to meet the challenges of the post-cold-war environment. His impact was felt throughout the United States Air Force and the Department of Defense. On behalf of all Americans, we extend our condolences to his family and the men and women of the Alaskan Command that he led so well.

Remarks in a National Forum on Social Security in Albuquerque, New Mexico

July 27, 1998

Shootings at the Capitol

Thank you very much. Ladies and gentlemen, before you sit down, if I might, I want to do something quite serious but, I think, important here at the beginning. I would like to ask Senator Domenici and Senator Bingaman and Congressmen Kolbe and Becerra to come up and stand with me, and I'd like to ask all of us to offer a moment of silent prayer for the memory and the families of the two police officers who were slain at our Nation's Capitol.

[At this point, a moment of silence was observed.]

Amen. Thank you very much.

Let me, now on a somewhat lighter note, say that Mayor Baca was reeling off all of his relatives on Social Security—I'm glad to see one person here who I believe is now