

out to assure the congressional approval of Fast Track. I ask for your support for America's heart. And I thank you for the past support on so many critical and key issues. Thank you all very, very much for coming to the White House. And God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 10:07 a.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Transportation Samuel K. Skinner; Marvin M. Black, president of the Associated General Contractors of America; and President Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the President's Meeting With Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas

April 15, 1991

President Bush had lunch today with Senator Lloyd Bentsen in the West Wing of the White House. The President and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee discussed Fast Track legislation and related trade issues. "Senator Bentsen has been a strong and steadfast leader in the Senate on the Fast Track legislation," President Bush said. "He is one of our most knowledgeable leaders on trade matters, and his support is crucial as we pursue the Fast Track legislation."

As the world's largest trader, the United

States has an enormous stake in the future of the global trading system. Exports have become a vital source of strength to the U.S. economy. In 1990, the nearly 8.5-percent growth in U.S. exports accounted for 88 percent of U.S. economic growth.

In order to sustain the expansion of exports and consequent growth, we must continue our efforts to open world markets. We must maintain our active leadership role. Without an extension of Fast Track, those efforts are futile.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the President's Federal Income Tax Return

April 15, 1991

The President and Mrs. Bush's 1990 tax return shows that they have paid \$99,241 in Federal income tax on an adjusted gross income of \$452,732, of which \$200,000 was the President's salary. The Bushes also reported \$245,911 in income, from their blind trust, \$1,245 in interest income, and \$8,647 from other sources. The blind trust is managed by Bessemer Trust Co., N.A., New York City.

The President and Mrs. Bush claimed \$97,118 in itemized deductions, which included \$38,667 in contributions to 50 char-

ities and \$330 to charities through the blind trust. A list of the 50 charities is attached. The net royalties received in 1990 of \$7,042 from the President's book, "Looking Forward," were given to charitable organizations included in this list.

The President and Mrs. Bush's tax return has been reviewed by the Office of Government Ethics and will be filed in the Philadelphia regional office of the Internal Revenue Service.