

Somebody told me that in Midnight Basketball, the only defense allowed is man-to-man. And that's important, because our only defense against despair, drugs, hopelessness has to happen one-to-one. You don't have to try to change the world, just help one person. Teach one person to read, feed one hungry child, hold one lonely hand. That's all it takes.

Too many look at life and wonder, well, what's the point. But Points of Light never have to ask what's the point of life. They know. It's something bigger than themselves. And they know that the power of one hopeful person can outshine a million indifferent stares and give life to a million different dreams. They know that caring individuals can light up every corner of the land.

So, I wanted to come over here today simply to say thanks to Mr. Standifer, to

county and city officials, to the players, to the coaches, to the sponsors. And everybody understands what we're talking about when we talk about one American helping another.

I want to thank you all for what you're doing. May God bless our great country. And now, with great pleasure, I will sign this proclamation. Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 2:20 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Glenarden Community Center. In his opening remarks, he referred to Van Standifer, founder of the Midnight Basketball League; Marvin F. Wilson, major of Glenarden; Parris Glendening, Prince George's County executive; and Martin G. Madden and John S. Morgan, delegates to the Maryland General Assembly. The proclamation is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Nomination of Charles R. Bowers To Be United States Ambassador to Bolivia

April 12, 1991

The President today announced his intention to nominate Charles R. Bowers, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Bolivia. He would succeed Robert S. Gelbard.

Since 1989 Mr. Bowers has served as an Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary for Management at the Department of State. Mr. Bowers has served at the Department of State in several capacities, including: special adviser and senior staff officer, 1988–1989; Executive Director for the Bureau of European Affairs, 1980–1983; Deputy Executive Director at the Bureau of European Affairs, 1978–1980; personnel officer, 1974–1975; and special assistant to

Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, 1973–1974. Mr. Bowers has also served in many U.S. Embassies, including: administrative counselor in Bonn, Germany, 1983–1988; administrative counselor in Singapore, 1976–1978; general services officer in Warsaw, Poland, 1970–1972; and a junior officer in Panama, 1967–1969. Mr. Bowers joined the Foreign Service in 1967.

Mr. Bowers graduated from the University of California at Berkeley (B.A., 1966; and M.A., 1967). He was born May 26, 1940, in Carthage, MO. Mr. Bowers served in the U.S. Army, 1961–1964. Mr. Bowers is married, has two children, and resides in Arlington, VA.