

Federal spending.

The American people overwhelmingly support a balanced budget constitutional amendment. On June 10, we came within just nine votes of achieving the two-thirds majority needed to pass the amendment in the House of Representatives. We came very close to accomplishing our goal. At a minimum, we created an atmosphere in which the Federal Government is watching more carefully how it spends taxpayers' money.

Now we must act to lay the groundwork for the future. I can and will take the compelling case for a balanced budget constitutional amendment to the American people. I seek a permanent partnership for fiscal responsibility that bears no party label. I plan to work closely with Members of Congress from both parties who support the amendment to find the nine missing votes and then raise the issue again. In every way possible, we will press our fight to restrain Federal spending once and for all.

## Statement on the Supreme Court Decision on the *Lee v. Weisman* Case

June 24, 1992

I am very disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision in *Lee v. Weisman*. The Court said that a simple nondenominational prayer thanking God for the liberty of America at a public school graduation ceremony violates the first amendment. America is a land of religious pluralism, and this is one of our Nation's greatest strengths. While we must remain neutral toward par-

ticular religions and protect freedom of conscience, we should not remain neutral toward religion itself. In this case, I believe that the Court has unnecessarily cast away the venerable and proper American tradition of nonsectarian prayer at public celebrations. I continue to believe that this type of prayer should be allowed in public schools.

## Nomination of David Heywood Swartz To Be United States Ambassador to Byelarus

June 24, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate David Heywood Swartz, of Virginia, to be Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Byelarus. This is a new position.

Currently Mr. Swartz serves as Chargé d'Affaires in Minsk, Byelarus. Prior to this, he served at the Department of State as senior inspector in the Office of Inspector General, 1991-92; dean of the School of Language Studies at the Foreign Service Institute, 1989-91; and staff director at the Nuclear Risk Reduction Center, 1988-89. Mr. Swartz has also served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in

Warsaw, Poland, 1984-88, and consul general at the U.S. consulate general in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, 1983-84. He attended the Canadian Defense College in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, 1982-83, and served as consul general at the U.S. consulate general in Zurich, Switzerland, 1980-82.

Mr. Swartz graduated from Southwestern College (B.A., 1964) and Florida State University (M.A., 1966). He was born March 3, 1942, in Chicago, IL. Mr. Swartz is married, has two children, and resides in Vienna, VA.