

does.

To create jobs and to make our economy more productive, we're planning to build and repair new roads and transit systems. We want to place hundreds of thousands of Americans in productive summer jobs and get young people the education they need while they're working. And we're challenging the private sector to create more and giving them the incentives to do it.

We want to fund future-oriented research and equip our Nation's young scientists and engineers with the skills to excel in high-technology fields. We want to convert military technology for peaceful uses that will benefit all of us and help communities hard hit by base closings and cutbacks on defense contracts. We want to re-train the defense workers put out of work by the end of the cold war. These people are patriots, and they deserve nothing less than a chance to work in civilian jobs that will earn them the kind of money they earned protecting our national defense.

Some people say these investments are unnecessary and costly. Their only alternative is to do nothing, accept things just the way they are, and hope, with no Government action in partnership with the private sector, somehow things will get better. These friends of the status quo have tried everything in recent days to show that we don't need new investments. But they've forgotten: We tried cutting investments for years. We forgot about the human equation, the necessity to train and educate people. And guess what? We didn't get jobs.

We still have a jobless economic recovery. If this were even an average recovery, we'd have 3 million more Americans working today. Many of the jobs that were created last month were

part-time jobs. And the unemployment rate is still higher today than it was at the bottom of the recession.

This job drought has put individuals and families under great stress. Americans don't want handouts; they just want a hand up, a chance to work and to provide for their own. And our plan does just that. In doing so, we'll be on our way to a real job-creating recovery that gets the incomes of American workers growing again.

We have to raise the living standards of our people now and in the long run. To keep our preeminence in the world economy, we have to create a smarter work force, with lifelong learning that trains all our people for better, higher paying jobs. And we need to develop the new technologies that are farsighted, that will create the high-wage jobs of today and tomorrow. If we're shortsighted today, we'll be blindsided tomorrow.

That's why I'm working hard, not just on this economic plan, although it is the centerpiece of our efforts, but on other fronts too: from controlling health care costs and providing the security of health care to all Americans, to moving people from welfare into jobs, to correcting the way we finance campaigns to bring the people in and move the special interests out. Each step of the way, I'm trying to listen to you. What happens on the short stretch of road between 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and Capitol Hill is only meaningful if we're acting for you and with you. This is the promise of our new plan for new directions.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House.

Exchange With Reporters in Little Rock, Arkansas

March 29, 1993

Aid to Russia

Q. Sir, three-quarters of Americans say we're already giving enough aid to Russia.

The President. We give a lot more money than we give to Russia to smaller countries. We've got a big interest there. And I realize that the responsibility is on me to communicate

to the American people any kind of pay package I propose and to justify it. That's my responsibility, and I intend to assume it.

Q. Where would you get another billion dollars, sir?

The President. We're working on the details of it. We'll be able to announce something—

Q. Are you concerned by these latest poll

figures, sir, that many Americans, 75 percent of the Americans, think we already give the Russians enough?

The President. Well, foreign aid is unpopular in every country in the world, and it's always been unpopular here. And I haven't really had a chance to talk much directly to the American people about what's going on there, what our stake in it and what their stake in it is, what the American people's stake in it. The American people are smart enough to know that we can't determine the course of events in Russia all

by ourselves. They know that. But we can have an impact on it. And my job as President is to convince the citizens of this country that they have an immediate and personal interest in the outcome of events. I think I can do it, and I'm going to do my best.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:05 a.m. outside the U.S. Male barbershop. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Nomination for Administrator of the Agency for International Development *March 29, 1993*

The President announced his intention today to nominate Brian Atwood as Administrator of the Agency for International Development, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

"Secretary Christopher and I have concluded that the skills that Brian Atwood brings to the State Department are greatly needed at AID," said the President. "I am confident that he will

be the kind of effective administrator that our foreign assistance programs need at this time. His proven effectiveness and his commitment to democratic change make him an ideal choice."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Assistant Secretaries of Education *March 29, 1993*

The President named two national education leaders to key positions at the Department of Education today, expressing his intention to nominate Colorado education official David Longanecker to be Assistant Secretary for Post-secondary Education and education innovator Sharon Porter Robinson to be Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.

"I have pledged to make the Department of Education a center for innovative policymaking," said the President. "David Longanecker and Sharon Porter Robinson will join with Secretary Riley and the rest of his team to bring the leadership that will make that happen."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Administrator of General Services *March 29, 1993*

In a move designed to cut waste and promote efficiency in the Federal Government, the President today announced his intention to nominate

Roger Johnson, chairman and CEO of Western Digital, to head the giant General Services Administration. The first Republican named to a