

top post in the new administration, Johnson served as an outspoken advocate for the Clinton-Gore ticket during the Presidential campaign, joining with other Orange County, CA, Republicans to endorse the Clinton-Gore plan to reinvest the Government and make it work for the American people.

“Roger Johnson’s skills as a business leader and strong commitment to Government change

will ensure that economy and efficiency are standard rule at the new GSA,” said the President. “Partisan politics have no place at this crucial juncture of our history. We must all work together to get our Government back on track.”

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

## Nomination for President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation *March 30, 1993*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Ruth Harkin, a top corporate attorney with expertise in international trade and investment, as President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

“Ruth Harkin has the experience, know-how and new ideas to make OPIC an innovative

Agency that will work aggressively to increase American investment overseas while protecting jobs at home,” the President said.

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

## Nomination for Assistant Secretaries of Defense *March 30, 1993*

The President announced his intention today to nominate Edward Warner to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and Resources and Charles Freeman to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Regional Security.

“Ted Warner and Charles Freeman are two of the most outstanding people working on de-

fense issues today,” said the President. “I am extremely pleased that they are joining Secretary Aspin at the Pentagon.”

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

## Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Cabinet Meeting *March 31, 1993*

### *Budget Resolution and Stimulus Package*

Q. Mr. President, are you going to get a \$1 billion package for the Russians in aid?

The President. I’ll have more to say about that tomorrow in Annapolis. I’m going out there to speak.

Let me say in front of the whole Cabinet here, it was just 6 weeks ago that I presented my plan to the United States Congress. They

are on the verge of adopting the budget resolution, which will drastically reduce the Federal deficit. The Senate, I believe, is on the verge of passing the jobs program to put a half-million jobs into this economy. Things are going well. We are moving with remarkable speed.

I do want to make one point, which was obscured a little in the news stories today. I say that not out of criticism, but on the issue of

the drop in consumer confidence, the Wall Street Journal had a very detailed article which showed that the principal reason for it is the continuing worry of the American people that this economy is not producing jobs. And consumers without jobs don't have confidence because they don't have money with which to consume. So it is very important that this week, before the Congress goes home, that we pass the budget resolution to reduce the deficit and the jobs program to create jobs. If we can do that, this will be an historic 6 weeks in which we are moving at a very rapid pace.

*Q.* Do you think, Mr. President, that the Republicans will seek to filibuster against the stimulus package? And if they do, what's your strategy?

*The President.* Well, we're going to try to win. I don't think so. I believe some of the Republicans support this. As a matter of fact, I think a lot of them support it. Some of them may never vote for it because of partisan divisions. But I think they know that the American people will be very disappointed to find out that a half a million jobs went by the wayside because 41—not even a majority, but 41 Senators stopped a vote from occurring. I don't think that's going to happen. I would be very surprised.

NOTE: The exchange began at 10:12 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

## Nomination for Posts at the Department of Defense

*March 31, 1993*

The President will nominate Dr. Anita Jones to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering and Graham Allison, Edwin Dorn, and Morton Halperin to be Assistant Secretaries of Defense for Plans and Policy, Personnel and Readiness, and Democracy and Human Rights respectively, the White House announced today.

"At this time of change and uncertainty, it is imperative that we have a topflight team at the Pentagon," said the President. "These four people have what it takes to keep the Defense Department moving forward."

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

## Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders

*April 1, 1993*

*Q.* Mr. President, is your stimulus package in trouble? That's what we hear.

*The President.* Well, we just passed the budget, but I'm celebrating that right now. I think we can pass it. We'll keep working on it. We have to have 60 votes to pass it, but we'll keep working on it.

We're here talking about Russia today.

NOTE: The exchange began at 10:30 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.