

need to have both spending cuts and tax increases to close this deficit and to bring it down. We could all argue until the cows come home about whether every last decision has been perfectly right, but it is perfectly clear that if you don't do both, you can't get where we're going. And it is absolutely imperative that we send a clear signal not only to the financial markets but to our children and our grandchildren that we are thinking about their future, that we are not going to saddle them with so much debt that we won't be able to finance education and economic growth and the kinds of things that every generation of Americans must be free to spend money on, both private money and public funds. If we don't take that opportunity now, we will have squandered our responsibilities to those who come behind us.

You know, I think more about it with each succeeding year that my daughter grows older. I think about how it won't be so long before she and her generation will be making decisions that now we're wrestling over. We owe it to those kids and to the ones who will follow behind them to provide the freedom of movement that any great society needs to reach the challenges of that time. We today, and this Congress, every Member will tell you, those people who occupy Washington today are hamstrung by a lack of freedom of movement because we have permitted paralysis to drive this deficit up, because we have refused to deal with the health care crisis, we have refused to deal with automatic explosions and things that we could have dealt with. And the time has come to face it and face it squarely. And I hope and pray, for the sake of our children and grandchildren, we are about to do just that in the next few days in the United States of America.

I want to say one thing finally. On the tax side of this plan, 74 percent of the burden falls

on the top 6 percent of income earners in America, and a lot of the rest falls on the top 20 percent of Social Security recipients whom we have asked to subject more of their income to taxation so as to avoid reducing cost of living allowances to all the Social Security recipients in the land who need that.

One of the things I think we have not said enough, and I believe most people in the Congress would admit this: We have heard very little opposition from upper income Americans to paying their fair share of taxes as long as they believe we're going to cut spending, bring the deficit down, and provide for the basic needs of this country. And to me, that's been one of the most rewarding things out there. A lot of the opposition is coming from middle class people who think they're going to pay a lot more than they are. But the people who are really going to pay and who know it, by and large, have been immensely patriotic in this last 2- or 3-month period, knowing that they have to make a contribution to securing the future.

All of you here who represent the elderly people of our country, you can reach out and embrace this effort in a way that no other generation of Americans can. This is a difficult time for the Congress, a difficult time for the country. The worst thing we can do is to walk away and do nothing and continue the perilous paralysis of the last few years. So I implore you to shoulder this. Think of our kids and grandkids. Let's move this country forward in a bipartisan and open manner.

Thank you. God bless you. And let's get on with the signing.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:30 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. The proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Exchange With Reporters on the White House Travel Office

May 25, 1993

Q. Mr. President, are you upset by this whole Travel Office mess? And who's responsible for it, sir?

The President. Well, ultimately, anything that happens in the White House is the responsibility

of the President. And whenever you've asked me a question, I've told you all I knew about it. All I knew was there was a plan to cut the size of the office, save tax dollars, save the press money. I talked to Mr. McLarty about it this

morning. I said, you know, I keep reading this; I know that there is a feeling at least, based on what I've read, that someone in the White House may have done something that was inappropriate or that wasn't quite handled right or something. Mack and I talked about it today. He said he would spend some real time on and look into it, try to ascertain exactly what happened, make a full report to me, which I think is the appropriate thing to do. I simply can't tell you that I know something I don't. I literally don't know anything other than what I've told you. He's looking into it now. He's worked on it quite a bit today. And he's going to make a report to me, and then we will take appropriate steps, including saying whatever's appropriate to you.

Q. Do you think that the White House approached the FBI improperly in this case?

The President. I don't have any reason to believe that. I mean, for example, there are lots of cases where, historically, as nearly as we can determine, the White House, if something happened within the White House, might ask the FBI to look into it. So I don't know that. I don't know that. And I don't have an opinion yet. I have to wait. Mack agreed that he needed to really make sure that he had all the facts down; he needed to know exactly what had happened; he needed to report to me. I said, "Look, this is just a simple case. Let's just follow the do-right rule here, make up your own mind, get the facts, see what you think happened, let me know, and we'll tell the public." I mean, there's nothing funny going on here. We really

were just trying to save money for everybody. That was the only thing I was ever asked about personally. And I don't believe that anybody else had any other motives that I know about. And so I asked him to look into it. When we know more, we'll be glad to say more.

Q. What about Dole saying it has a tinge of Watergate?

The President. There's none of that because, you know, there's nothing like that going on. There's no—no.

Q. Don't you think—

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. We're on top of it. We'll—

Q. Don't you think a lot of people were hurt by the way it was handled?

The President. Well, the question is whether the people that were hurt did anything to merit it. We'll just have to see. I mean, I want to get a report, and then I will be glad to tell you whatever I know. But let me find out—

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. All those decisions have been made by Mack. We talked yesterday. We talked again this morning. He said, "Look, I just want to get on top of this. I'll tell you exactly what happened. I'll tell you what I think." So I'm waiting for a report. And I don't think I should say anything else until I know more.

NOTE: The exchange began at 5:43 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Notice on Continuation of Emergency With Respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

May 25, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with

this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is to continue in effect beyond May 30, 1993, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on May 30, 1992, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The Government of the Fed-