

Exchange With Reporters on Departure for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania May 28, 1993

China

Q. Heard anything from China, Mr. President? Their reaction, the Chinese reaction?

The President. I don't know what their—I feel very good about our policy. I think it's a good policy. I don't want to isolate China. I want to do what's good for—just the Chinese people. But I think standing up for American values and values in China is the way to go. I think

this is the right policy. And we have some very serious issues between us, along with these, a broad range of possibilities. I hope we can work——

NOTE: The exchange began at 10:07 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks at City Hall in Philadelphia May 28, 1993

Thank you very much, Rosemary Greco. You know, she's the sort of person that I ran for President to support, a person who started out as a bank teller and became the president of a bank. That's the American dream.

I want to say how glad I am to be here, back in Philadelphia, a city that has been so good to me for so long now, with your Mayor and with Senator Wofford and with the members of the House delegation who are up here on the platform with me and with your State treasurer, Catherine Baker Knoll. I'm glad to be here with all of them. Give them a hand, will you?

My fellow Americans, since I became President I have been working to break the gridlock in Washington, to prove that Government could work for you again. And there have been some impressive examples of success in that regard. The Congress, after 8 years of rankling with the President and two vetoes, voted to pass the Family and Medical Leave Act to guarantee working people a little time off when the baby was born or a parent was sick, and eventually, after years of haggling, voted to pass the motor voter bill to open up the voter registration rolls to millions of Americans and bring them into the political process.

But the real issue was whether we had the courage to come to grips with the economic problems which have paralyzed this country. After years and years and years of gridlock, after years of leaders talking about economic prob-

lems and not doing much about them, after years in which we ran our national debt from \$1 trillion to \$4 trillion and reduced our investment in our people, their jobs, and their future at the same time, last night the House of Representatives gave the American people a victory for economic growth over gridlock.

The plan cuts the deficit by \$500 billion, cuts a quarter of a trillion dollars in Government spending, asks the wealthy who can best afford to pay their fair share, invests in education and jobs, and rewards work instead of welfare.

[At this point, audience members interrupted the President's remarks.]

Let me tell you something—wait a minute. You know one thing that's wrong with this country? Everybody gets a chance to have their fair say. My budget did more to fight AIDS than any in history, and we're having to put up with this. Tell them to let me talk. If you want to give a speech, go out there and raise your own crowd. We'll be glad to listen to you.

So there were those—I'll make you a deal. I'll ignore them if you will.

There were a lot of people who said we could never change the way things were in Washington, the same sort of people who picked the Phillies to finish last this year. By the way, I think the Phillies are looking pretty good, even that big fellow, Kruk, you know, is a big bat. I wonder who cuts his hair? [Laughter]

Let me tell you something, folks, make no