THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 25, 1993

Dear Senator Dole:

Thank you for your letter of January 21, 1993 urging a shift to fixed deficit targets. As you know, I notified Congress last week of my intention to retain the current system of adjustable deficit maximums.

Like you I am appalled with the burgeoning federal deficit and the ill effects it has already had on the U.S. economy. During my campaign and as President, I have made a commitment to the American people to reverse this destructive trend. Our task has been made more difficult in recent months by a deteriorating deficit outlook, but I am confident that this goal is achievable with your help and the assistance of the bipartisan leadership of Congress.

I agree with you that cutting the deficit will present a formidable challenge. However, fixed deficit maximums enforced by arbitrary across-the-board cuts are not the answer. The achievement of a healthy economy accompanied by meaningful deficit reduction is the only long-term solution to our Nation's problems. With your support we will regain our economic momentum.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Dole Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510