

- Military reservists and members of the Air and Army National Guard who are returning to their Federal civilian employment should be restored to the same jobs they left, and the legal flexibility of placement in equivalent jobs should be used only when absolutely necessary.
- Desert Shield/Desert Storm participants who are returning to their Federal civilian employment should be afforded 5 days of excused absence from their duties, without charge to leave.
- Federal employees who have served in the Armed Forces during this emergency and who qualify for retirement may do so without returning to their civilian employment under 5 U.S.C. 8332(g).

The Office of Personnel Management will be issuing guidance on these matters, and I urge the heads of executive departments and agencies to take all necessary action to provide for prompt implementation.

As our regular troops return, we can ex-

pect many to be seeking civilian employment in the future. I am directing the Office of Personnel Management to take such actions as are appropriate, in cooperation with executive departments and agencies, to ensure that Federal civilian employment opportunities are made available to the greatest extent possible to these veterans, particularly those who have become disabled as a result of their military service. This will assist not only the veterans, but also the Federal Government, which will be able to benefit from their skills and abilities.

Finally, we must all recognize the many contributions that have been made to our successful military operations by Federal civilian employees, both in the Department of Defense and elsewhere in the Government. I urge the heads of executive departments and agencies to recognize these accomplishments and to use fully the Federal employee incentive awards program for this purpose.

GEORGE BUSH

Message to the Congress on the Termination of the Sanctions Imposed With Respect to Kuwait

March 8, 1991

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby provide notice, consistent with section 586C(c)(2) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1991 (Public Law 101-513), of my intention to terminate, in whole or in part, no sooner than 15 days

after the date of this notice, the sanctions imposed with respect to Kuwait pursuant to Executive Order Nos. 12723 and 12725.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
March 8, 1991.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Telecommunications Trade Talks With the European Community and Korea

March 8, 1991

Dear 111111 :

Pursuant to section 1376(c)(2)(B) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 ("the Act") (Public Law 100-418; 102

Stat. 1221), I am hereby transmitting my report that finds that substantial progress has been made in telecommunications trade talks conducted under section 1375 of the

Mar. 8 / Administration of George Bush, 1991

Act with the European Community (EC) and Korea and contains the reasons why an extension of the negotiating period with the EC and Korea is necessary.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH

Note: Identical letters were sent to George J. Mitchell, Senate majority leader; Robert Dole, Senate Republican leader; Lloyd Bent-

sen and Bob Packwood, chairman and ranking Republican member of the Senate Finance Committee; Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Robert H. Michel, House Republican leader; John D. Dingell and Norman F. Lent, chairman and ranking Republican member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee; and Dan Rostenkowski and Bill Archer, chairman and ranking Republican member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Nuclear Cooperation with EURATOM

March 8, 1991

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

The United States has been engaged in nuclear cooperation with the European Community for many years. This cooperation was initiated under agreements that were concluded over 3 decades ago between the United States and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) and that extend until December 31, 1995. Since the inception of this cooperation, the Community has adhered to all its obligations under those agreements.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 amended the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to establish new nuclear export criteria, including a requirement that the United States have a right to consent to the reprocessing of fuel exported from the United States. Our present agreements for cooperation with EURATOM do not contain such a right. To avoid disrupting cooperation with EURATOM, a proviso was included in the law to enable continued cooperation until March 10, 1980, if EURATOM agreed to negotiations concerning our cooperation agreements. EURATOM agreed in 1978 to such negotiations.

The law also provides that nuclear cooperation with EURATOM can be extended on an annual basis after March 10, 1980, upon determination by the President that failure to cooperate would be seriously prejudicial to the achievement of U.S. non-

proliferation objectives or otherwise jeopardize the common defense and security and after notification to the Congress. President Carter made such a determination 11 years ago and signed Executive Order No. 12193, permitting nuclear cooperation with EURATOM to continue until March 10, 1981. President Reagan made such determinations in 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1988, and signed Executive Order Nos. 12295, 12351, 12409, 12463, 12506, 12554, 12587, and 12629, permitting nuclear cooperation to continue through March 10, 1989. I made such determinations in 1989 and 1990 and signed Executive Orders Nos. 12670 and 12706, permitting nuclear cooperation to continue through March 10, 1991.

In addition to numerous informal contacts, the United States has engaged in frequent talks with EURATOM regarding the renegotiation of the U.S.-EURATOM agreements for cooperation. Talks were conducted in November 1978, September 1979, April 1980, January 1982, November 1983, March 1984, May, September, and November 1985, April and July 1986, September 1987, September and November 1988, July and December 1989, and February, April, October, and December 1990. Further talks are anticipated this year.

I believe it is essential that cooperation between the United States and the Community continue and, likewise, that we work