

## Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Panamanian Government Assets Held by the United States

April 23, 1991

*To the Congress of the United States:*

1. I hereby report to the Congress on developments since the last Presidential report on October 27, 1990, concerning the continued blocking of Panamanian government assets. This report is submitted pursuant to section 207(d) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1706(d).

2. On April 5, 1990, I issued Executive Order No. 12710, terminating the national emergency declared on April 8, 1988, with respect to Panama. While this order terminated the sanctions imposed pursuant to that declaration, the blocking of Panamanian government assets in the United States was continued in order to permit completion of the orderly unblocking and transfer of funds that I directed on December 20, 1989, and to foster the resolution of claims of U.S. creditors involving Panama, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1706(a). The termination of the national emergency did not affect the continuation of compliance audits and enforcement actions with respect to activities taking place during the sanctions period, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(a).

3. Since my last report, the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury ("FAC") has released to the control of the Government of Panama approximately \$180,000 of the \$130.7 million that was blocked. The amount released rep-

resents blocked tangible property on which creditors' liens have been allowed to be executed.

Of the approximately \$132.76 million remaining blocked at this time (which includes approximately \$2.2 million in interest credited to the accounts since my last report), some \$131.7 million is held in escrow by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at the request of the Government of Panama to fund a portion of Panama's arrearage to international financial institutions. Additionally, approximately \$1.1 million is held in commercial bank accounts for which the Government of Panama has not requested unblocking. A small residual in blocked reserve accounts established under section 565.509 of the Panamanian Transactions Regulations, 31 CFR 565.509, remains on the books of U.S. firms pending the final reconciliation of accounting records involving claims and counterclaims between the firms and the Government of Panama.

4. I will continue to report periodically to the Congress on the exercise of authorities to prohibit transactions involving property in which the Government of Panama has an interest, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1706(d).

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,  
April 23, 1991.

## Message to the Congress on the Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Export Controls

April 23, 1991

*To the Congress of the United States:*

1. On September 30, 1990, in Executive Order No. 12730, I declared a national emergency under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA") (50 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*) to deal with the threat

to the national security and foreign policy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. 2401, *et seq.*) and the system of controls maintained under that Act. In that order, I continued in effect, to