

olutely confident that if you go to the polls and you work the phone banks and you do the sometimes tough but always effective things in politics, that you have seen the man who is going to be President for 4 more years.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

Note: The President spoke at 5:50 p.m. at Acadiana High School. Dud Lastrapes, former Mayor of Lafayette and district chairman, Bush-Quayle '92, served as moderator for the session. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Signing the Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act

October 24, 1992

Today I am signing into law H.R. 4844, the "Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act." This Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a detailed report on alternatives for restoring the important Elwha River ecosystem and fisheries in the State of Washington. The ecosystem includes resources inside one of our Nation's premier assets, the Olympic National Park.

I wish to express, however, two concerns that I have with the Act. First, the Secretary of the Interior is given only 15 months to prepare the required report. This report must include a study on the acquisition of the existing Elwha River dams, plans for full restoration of the Elwha River ecosystem, and alternatives to removal of the dams. Considering the amount and the complexity of the information required to be included in the report, this timeframe is very unrealistic.

Second, the Secretary of the Interior is required in the report to identify nonfederal parties, besides Indian tribes, that would

directly benefit from restoration of the Elwha River ecosystem, if the Secretary believes that these parties should assume some portion of the costs of restoration. However, the Act does not provide express authority to require restoration cost sharing among the benefitted parties. I am instructing the Secretary of the Interior to prepare alternatives for Elwha River restoration, including potential dam removal, that assume nonfederal cost sharing.

I am also instructing the Department of the Interior to consult with the Department of Energy in the preparation of the report on alternatives to dam removal.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
October 24, 1992.

Note: H.R. 4844, approved October 24, was assigned Public Law No. 102-495. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 25.

Statement on Signing the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993

October 24, 1992

Today I am signing into law H.R. 5095, the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993." The Act authorizes appropriations for the intelligence and intel-

ligence-related activities of the United States during fiscal year 1993.

Title VII of the Act, separately entitled the "Intelligence Organization Act of

1992,” amends the 1947 National Security Act with respect to the organization of the Intelligence Community and the responsibilities and authorities of both the Director of Central Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense. The title allows for further organizational changes, while establishing a legislative framework that accurately reflects the existing relationships between elements of the Intelligence Community.

I am pleased that title VII preserves the authority and flexibility that the President must have to organize the Intelligence Community to conduct effectively U.S. intelligence activities in the post cold-war world. Specifically, title VII preserves the authority of the President to create, abolish, or reorganize the Department of Defense intelligence elements, and the authority of the Secretary of Defense under the President to determine which of these elements will execute Department of Defense intelligence functions. In this, title VII is consistent with Executive Order No. 12333, “United States Intelligence Activities,” dated December 4, 1981, which remains in force.

I note that title VII also provides that the positions of Director and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence may not simultaneously be occupied by commissioned officers of the Armed Forces. Although this provision is a restatement of current law, it fails to recognize that the Appointments Clause of the Constitution gives the President the sole power to nominate Federal officers whose appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. Under that Clause, neither the Senate nor the Congress as a whole has any role in choosing the person who will be nominated for appointment, such as by specifying certain qualifications in legislation. I will accordingly treat this provision as advisory rather than mandatory.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
October 24, 1992.

Note: H.R. 5095, approved October 24, was assigned Public Law No. 102-496. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 25.

Statement on Signing the Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1992

October 24, 1992

It gives me great pleasure to sign into law S. 2322, the “Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1992.”

Our Nation provides compensation payments to service-disabled veterans and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits to the survivors of those who die as a result of military service to our country. My Administration is committed to ensuring that these payments keep pace with changes in the cost of living.

S. 2322 provides a 3 percent increase in compensation and DIC benefits, which is the same cost-of-living adjustment Social Security beneficiaries and veteran pensioners will receive. Nearly 2.2 million veterans and their dependents and about 313,000 surviving spouses and children will benefit

from this increase, which is effective December 1, 1992.

As a Nation, we must always remember the special debt that we owe those veterans who unselfishly give of themselves to assure that the security and honor of this country are maintained. The freedom and liberty that we enjoy as citizens of this great Nation depend on the men and women of our Armed Forces. The measure that I sign today bears witness to our gratitude and continued commitment to those who serve our country. It tangibly demonstrates that the American people will not forget the valuable contribution that veterans have made to this Nation.

GEORGE BUSH