

What a 2 days this has been. It's been so elevating and so exhilarating, I hesitate to diminish it in any way with a little humor. But when we were being called in and we realized, the three of us, that once more we were going to be asked to say something, I said, "Isn't it wonderful we're going to give another speech." [Laughter] His Majesty rolled his eyes—[laughter]—and the Prime Minister said, "You go in and tell everybody we're very grateful to them, we've had a wonderful time, and we're going to eat and drink some more." [Laughter]

I think America will long remember the remarkable signing ceremony yesterday and the gripping appearance of King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin before the joint session of Congress today. They were truly magnificent. They remind us by the events here in the last 2 days and by the lives that they brought here that it still is possible for hope to triumph over hate, for unity to triumph over division, for optimism to vanquish cynicism even in this day and time.

And I want to say a special word of thanks on behalf of the American people for this process in the Middle East. Your Majesty, Prime Minister, if you look out in this room today, there are Jewish-American and Arab-American citizens of my country who never knew each other before this process began, who never related to each other, who always wondered if they really did share the same citizenship, the

same experiences, the same feelings and values. Now they're part of the Builders for Peace program. They're talking about all the young people coming over here from Jordan and Israel and Egypt and Morocco in the Seeds for Peace program. They're imagining what might happen in the new world of investment and trade and human contact between people in the United States and people in the Middle East. So that is something that we owe you as Americans.

I am very proud of the role the United States has been able to play in this process, but all we can ever do is to make it possible for brave leaders to feel secure enough, certain enough, trusting enough of us so that they can do what it is in their heart they wish to do. If we have done that, I am very proud and grateful for the opportunity to have done that.

But in the end, we must, all of us, be grateful to these two remarkable men and their remarkable nations. And we must commit, all of us, to make sure that the great journey they have started has a successful conclusion. That is my commitment. And with that, I welcome them to this podium and thank them for these last 2 magnificent days.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:25 p.m. in the Benjamin Franklin Room at the State Department.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting Documents on the Palau-United States Compact of Free Association

July 26, 1994

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

On November 9, 1993, the voters in Palau approved the Compact of Free Association between the United States and Palau, opening the way for the Compact to be brought into force 7 years after the passage by the Congress of U.S. legislation approving the Compact.

In giving its approval to the Compact of Free Association, the Congress required the transmittal of certain agreements, Palau's Economic Development Plan, and a report on that Plan, at least 30 days (excluding days on which both

Houses of Congress are not in session) prior to the effective date of the Compact.

Therefore, in accordance with section 101 of the Compact of Free Association with Palau Act, Public Law 101-219 (December 12, 1989), section 101(d)(1)(C) and (2) of the Compact of Free Association Approval Act, Public Law 99-658 (November 14, 1986), and section 102(b) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985, Public Law 99-239 (January 14, 1986), I am hereby submitting the Economic Development Plan of the Republic of Palau, including this report thereon with supporting material, copies of certain subsidiary agreements between the

United States and Palau, and an agreement between Palau and the United States establishing October 1, 1994, as the effective date for the Compact, provided that all lawsuits in Palau challenging the compact have been resolved by that date. A separate letter from the President of Palau commenting on the Economic Development Plan also is attached.

The Congress also required that approval of the Compact be free of legal challenge in Palau and that I certify that there are no legal impediments to the ability of the United States to carry out fully its responsibilities and to exercise its rights under the defense-related provisions of the Compact. There is currently a lawsuit challenging the Compact in Palau. I will make this final certification once that lawsuit is resolved.

Report on the Development Plan

Under my direction, the Department of the Interior, the Agency for International Development, the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and other interested agencies, have conducted a review of Palau's Economic Development Plan. These agencies have concluded, and I so find, that the Plan as submitted, together with the July 15, 1994, exchange of letters between Secretary of the Interior Babbitt and President Nakamura of Palau establishing a joint working group to coordinate efforts under the Compact to protect the unique marine resources of Palau, is acceptable. They have recommended that following the statutory period for Congressional review provided in section 102(b) of Public Law 99-239 (January 14, 1986), and subject to consideration of any Congressional comments, the United States will concur with Palau's Development Plan. Palau also has agreed to submit subsequent development plans at intervals no longer than every 5 years as required by law (section 102(b)(1) of Public Law 99-239 (January 14, 1986)).

Effective Date Agreement

The July 15, 1994, Agreement Regarding the Entry Into Force of the Compact of Free Association establishes October 1, 1994, as the effective date of the Compact, provided that all legal challenges in Palau have been resolved by the date ("provided that the requirements of section 101(1) of United States Public Law 101-219 (December 12, 1989) have been met"). See Senate Report No. 101-189, at 9 (1989). If all legal

challenges in Palau have not been resolved by that date the agreement provides that the effective date shall be the earliest possible date thereafter as established by exchange of letters between the two governments. There is currently a pending lawsuit in Palau challenging implementation of the Compact.

Subsidiary Agreements

Compact subsidiary agreements were submitted to the Congress in 1986 prior to approval of the Compact (see section 101(a) of Public Law 99-658 (November 14, 1986)). Additional agreements concluded since that time are submitted with this letter. These are: the Agreement Concerning Procedures for the Implementation of United States Economic Assistance, Programs and Services Provided in the Compact of Free Association Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Palau, signed December 2, 1987; the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of Palau Regarding Mutual Assistance in Law Enforcement Matters, signed December 2, 1987; and the Agreement Concerning Special Programs Related to the Entry Into Force of the Compact of Free Association Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Palau, signed May 26, 1989.

Certification

I will make such additional certification and report to the Congress as required by law prior to the effective date of the Compact in accordance with section 101(d)(1)(A) of Public Law 99-658 (November 14, 1986).

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate; Lee H. Hamilton, chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs; George Miller, chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources; Claiborne Pell, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and J. Bennett Johnston, chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.