Nomination for the National Labor Relations Board

February 3, 1994

The President announced his intention today to nominate Charles I. Cohen to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

“Charles Cohen is a respected attorney with years of experience on the NLRB staff. I believe he will be an effective member of the Board,” said the President.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Memorandum on Lifting the Trade Embargo on Vietnam

February 3, 1994

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce

Subject: Lifting of the Embargo Against Vietnam

I hereby direct the Secretary of the Treasury to take all appropriate actions to authorize prospectively all trade and financial dealings with Vietnam, and the Secretary of Commerce to exempt Vietnam from existing controls implementing the embargo. Vietnamese assets in the United States or within the possession or control of persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction and that are now blocked should remain blocked until further notice.

In discharging these responsibilities, you are directed to consult with the heads of other Executive departments and agencies as may be appropriate.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: This memorandum was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 4.

Statement on the Observance of National African-American History Month

February 4, 1994

I want to extend my greetings to all of you who are celebrating African-American History Month during this important time of renewal and reflection for our country.

America was founded on the principle that we’re all created equal, and this solemn commitment to tolerance and freedom must continue to bind us as a nation. Our diverse culture enriches and broadens the American experience of which African-American heritage is an inseparable part. It weaves throughout our country’s history, profoundly influencing every aspect of our national life.

We’ve come a long way since the days when white-only and colored-only signs disfigured our country’s landscape and demeaned too many of our citizens. African-Americans have made great strides in recent years, commanding leadership positions in the public and private sectors in record numbers. Opportunities for education advancement, election, and mobility continue to expand among black Americans, and our country’s moving ever closer to fulfilling its fundamental promise of equality for all.

Yet the truth is, many problems continue to plague our communities, tarnishing that ideal of equality because they affect African-Americans more adversely than the rest of us. The poverty, the drugs, the violence that afflict too many of our people in our communities, of all races and backgrounds, have severely harmed black children, women, and men, threatening our vision of a better world.

Throughout this month, we look to the lessons of our past for solutions to these crises, in the hope of building a brighter world for the future.
Many such solutions can be found in the rich history of the African-American people. The speeches of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, the writings of W.E.B. Du Bois, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, the powerful literature of Toni Morrison, Richard Wright, Alice Walker, and so many others explore the difficulties and the joys that pervade the African-American experience.

By rediscovering and celebrating this wealth of history, we can draw strength from the successes of these great leaders and determination from their example for the hard work in the days ahead to forge a new era of healing and hope. As we continually strive to embrace the talent and creativity of all our Nation’s people, I want to give my best wishes to all of you for an exciting, productive, and renewing month.

Nomination for Posts at the Department of Justice
February 4, 1994

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Michael R. Bromwich to be the Inspector General of the Justice Department and Lois Jane Schiffer to be the Assistant Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources.

“Michael Bromwich and Lois Jane Schiffer are respected attorneys with long records of achievement,” said the President. “They will be strong additions to the Department of Justice.”

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

The President’s Radio Address
February 5, 1994

Good morning. This morning I want to talk with you about jobs, how more Americans can find new jobs and better ones, how we can help business to create those jobs, and how we can prepare our people to hold them.

I became President committed to growing the economy, cutting the deficit, and creating new jobs. A year later, we've made real progress toward all those goals. We brought down next year's projected deficit by $126 billion, about 40 percent less than it was predicted to be. And in the past 12 months, the economy has created 1.9 million new jobs, 90 percent of them in private industry. In fact, more private sector jobs were created in the past year than in the previous 4 years. So together we've accomplished a lot. But we've got a lot more to do to achieve a lasting recovery that benefits every region of our country and every sector of our society. We must maintain budget discipline, continue our comprehensive strategy to create more growth and more opportunity for more Americans, and make sure our workers and our young people especially have the new skills for the jobs that will be created.

On Monday, I'll submit the next installment of our plan for deficit reduction and economic growth. The budget cuts spending for more than 300 Government programs, completely eliminates more than 100 programs, and reduces the Federal work force by more than 100,000 and gives 7 to 14 Cabinet Departments less money than last year.

Meanwhile, we invest more in developing new technologies to create new jobs, in educating our children and training our workers for those jobs, and fighting crime and protecting the environment, and in giving our children a healthy start in life. We have to cut spending on yesterday's outmoded programs so we can bring down the deficit and still invest more in tomorrow's most urgent priorities.

This morning, I want to tell you more about one of our most important priorities: helping people from unemployment to work, from welfare to work, from school to work, and from