

Aug. 17 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1994

nent parts beyond which the manufacturer will not be liable in lawsuits alleging defective manufacture or design. It is limited to aircraft having a seating capacity of fewer than 20 passengers, which are not engaged in scheduled passenger-carrying operations.

In its report to me and to the Congress last August, the National Commission to Ensure a Strong Competitive Airline Industry recommended the enactment of a statute of repose for general aviation aircraft. The report indicated that the enactment of such legislation would “help regenerate a once-healthy industry and help create thousands of jobs.” I agree with this assessment; this is a job-creating and job-restoring measure that will bring good jobs and

economic growth back to this industry. It will also help U.S. companies restore our Nation to the status of the premier supplier of general aviation aircraft to the world, favorably affecting our balance of trade. Therefore, as I sign into law the “General Aviation Revitalization Act of 1994,” I am pleased to acknowledge the bipartisan work done by the Congress and by all the supporters of the general aviation industry.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
August 17, 1994.

NOTE: S. 1458, approved August 17, was assigned Public Law No. 103–298.

## Message to the Congress on Trade With Belarus and Uzbekistan August 17, 1994

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am writing to inform you of my intent to add Belarus and Uzbekistan to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). The GSP program offers duty-free access to the U.S. market and is authorized by the Trade Act of 1974.

I have carefully considered the criteria identified in sections 501 and 502 of the Trade Act of 1974. In light of these criteria, and particularly the level of development and initiation of economic reforms in Belarus and Uzbekistan,

I have determined that it is appropriate to extend GSP benefits to these two countries.

This notice is submitted in accordance with section 502(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
August 17, 1994.

NOTE: The related proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to UNITA August 17, 1994

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice,

stating that the emergency declared with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (“UNITA”) is to continue in effect beyond September 26, 1994, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on September 26, 1993, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions and policies of UNITA pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the

United States. United Nations Security Council Resolution 864 (1993) continues to oblige all Members States to maintain sanctions. Discontinuation of the sanctions would have a prejudicial effect on the Angolan peace process. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities necessary to apply economic pressure to UNITA

to reduce its ability to pursue its aggressive policies of territorial acquisition.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
August 17, 1994.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Letter Accepting the Resignation of Roger Altman as Deputy Secretary at the Department of the Treasury *August 17, 1994*

*Dear Roger:*

I have received your letter of today's date resigning as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury. I believe you have taken the right step under the circumstances, and I regretfully accept your resignation, effective upon the confirmation of your successor.

I agree with Secretary Bentsen that you have made many valuable contributions to this administration as Deputy Secretary. You played a vital role in the passage of NAFTA and the deficit reduction plan, both critical steps for the American economy. I hope that in due course you will be able to return to public service. Meanwhile, I look forward to the benefit of your continuing advice and assistance.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

As I explained to the Senate, I regret any mistakes or errors of judgment I may have made. For them, I apologize. And, hopefully, my stepping down will help to diminish the controversy.

I am proud to have served in your Administration. It has laid a foundation for improving the security and standards of living of the American people. From the Economic Plan to NAFTA to health care, you have consistently made courageous decisions. And, I believe that history will regard them as such.

It has been a special privilege to serve you, Secretary Bentsen, and the American people over the past year and a half. Thank you very much for the opportunity you gave me. I believe fervently in the Administration's agenda and hope to advance it in other capacities.

Sincerely,

ROGER ALTMAN

*Dear Mr. President:*

I am resigning today as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury. Under the circumstances, this is the proper step to take. With your permission, the resignation would become effective upon the confirmation of my successor.

NOTE: Mr. Altman's letter of resignation to Secretary of the Treasury Lloyd Bentsen and the Secretary's letter of acceptance were also released by the Office of the Press Secretary.