

Statement on Disaster Assistance for California

January 13, 1995

Today I am sending to the State of California \$10 million from the disaster relief fund. These funds will be used by the State and local governments in the flooded areas to remove debris and to take protective measures to ensure the health and safety of their residents.

At this time, I have approved Federal assistance for 34 California counties stricken by the disastrous floods. Our hearts go out to the peo-

ple who have suffered losses in these disastrous floods. I have asked James L. Witt, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to make certain that all appropriate resources of the Federal Government are applied to assist the State of California in helping their citizens to begin to recover from this disaster. The action I have taken today will be a start for California residents down the difficult road to recovery.

Statement on the Dispute Between Bridgestone-Firestone and the United Rubber Workers

January 13, 1995

I have long supported legislation to prevent companies from permanently replacing their striking workers. Unfortunately, last year a minority of Senators prevented the full Senate from voting on the bill.

Now Bridgestone-Firestone's use of permanent replacements shows exactly why this protection is necessary. By bringing in permanent replacements for their workers who are on strike, while refusing to come to the bargaining table, the management of Bridgestone-Firestone is flagrantly turning its back on our tradition

of peaceful collective bargaining to solve labor disputes. When companies replace their workers under these circumstances, they sow seeds of distrust and resentment which can extend far beyond their company, undermining labor-management relations across the land. Bridgestone-Firestone should get back to the bargaining table with the United Rubber Workers to reach a fair settlement. Secretary Reich and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service stand ready to help. Let's get on with it.

The President's Radio Address

January 14, 1995

Good morning. Let me begin by saying that Hillary and I send our prayers and our good wishes to all the families who are suffering in the terrible California floods. Our administration is doing everything in our power to make sure you get the relief you need. And I pledge to you that the American people will stand by you in this time of crisis as they have in the past.

On Monday, we'll all celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King on what would have been his 66th birthday. Dr. King was one of the great moral prophets of our time. He never held public office, but no one ever did more

to redeem the promise of American life or stir the soul of our Nation.

One of Martin Luther King's greatest lessons was that every American deserves a piece of the American dream, the chance to pull ourselves up and work our way into the middle class. He taught us that we have more uniting us than dividing us, that no matter our race, our religion, our income, we all share the same hope of building better lives for ourselves and our children.

The most important civil right is the right to dream the American dream and to have the