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OF THE
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Foreword

The period from July through December 1995 was an exceptional time. On fundamental issues—the role of Government, our role in the world, and how we can build a strong American community—our people came together after intense debate to forge new approaches that applied our enduring values to the challenges of new times.

During this period, the American people engaged in a great national debate about how best to balance the budget. I proposed and fought for a plan to balance the budget in a way that reflected our values, by strengthening Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment. The congressional majority put forward a plan that I believed did not honor our fundamental values; I vetoed that plan. By year's end, after the congressional majority twice shut down the Government, it was clear that the American people had rallied to our view. We need a smaller Government, but one strong enough to give people the tools to make the most of their own lives.

America also decisively reasserted its role as the world's indispensable nation. On my remarkable trip to Northern Ireland and Ireland—and to Jerusalem, for the funeral of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin—Americans were once again reminded of our unique obligation to lead and to be a force for peace where possible. And in Bosnia, America led the way to bring to an end the bloodiest conflict in Europe since World War II. By committing our troops to help maintain the peace in Bosnia, we recommitted ourselves to being the world's strongest force for peace, freedom, and prosperity.

Perhaps most important, this was a time when we worked to find common ground and bridge the intense divisions of race, religion, and geography that threaten to pull us apart. In a series of speeches, I called on Americans to find common ground. At Georgetown University, I urged a new tone of civility based on the common values that bind us together. In speeches on affirmative action at the National Archives in Washington and in Austin, Texas, I called on all Americans to clean their house of the racism that is still too real among us. And I spoke about the proper role of religion in our lives and communities, arguing that our schools need not be prayer-free zones.

The closing months of 1995 set the course for how our Nation can move confidently toward the 21st century. By holding true to our values—opportunity for all, responsibility from all, and building a strong American community—our Nation passed through this moment of decision stronger than ever before.

William Clinton

Preface

This book contains the papers and speeches of the 42d President of the United States that were issued by the Office of the Press Secretary during the period July 1–December 31, 1995. The material has been compiled and published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration.

The material is presented in chronological order, and the dates shown in the headings are the dates of the documents or events. In instances when the release date differs from the date of the document itself, that fact is shown in the textnote. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy: Remarks are checked against a tape recording, and signed documents are checked against the original. Textnotes and cross references have been provided by the editors for purposes of identification or clarity. Speeches were delivered in Washington, DC, unless indicated. The times noted are local times. All materials that are printed full-text in the book have been indexed in the subject and name indexes, and listed in the document categories list.

The Public Papers of the Presidents series was begun in 1957 in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission. An extensive compilation of messages and papers of the Presidents covering the period 1789 to 1897 was assembled by James D. Richardson and published under congressional authority between 1896 and 1899. Since then, various private compilations have been issued, but there was no uniform publication comparable to the Congressional Record or the United States Supreme Court Reports. Many Presidential papers could be found only in the form of mimeographed White House releases or as reported in the press. The Commission therefore recommended the establishment of an official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature could be made available.

The Commission's recommendation was incorporated in regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, issued under section 6 of the Federal Register Act (44 U.S.C. 1506), which may be found in title 1, part 10, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

A companion publication to the Public Papers series, the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, was begun in 1965 to provide a broader range of Presidential materials on a more timely basis to meet the needs of the contemporary reader. Beginning with the administration of Jimmy Carter, the Public Papers series expanded its coverage to include additional material as printed in the Weekly Compilation. That coverage provides a listing of the President's daily schedule and meetings, when announced, and other items of general interest issued by the Office of the Press Secretary. Also included are lists of the President's nominations submitted to the Senate, materials released by the Office of the Press Secretary that are not printed full-text in the book, and proclamations, Executive orders, and other Presidential documents released by the Office of the Press Secretary and published in the *Federal Register*. This information appears in the appendixes at the end of the book.

Volumes covering the administrations of Presidents Hoover, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush are also available.

The Public Papers of the Presidents publication program is under the direction of Frances D. McDonald, Director of the Presidential Documents and Legislative Division. The series is produced by the Presidential Documents Unit, Gwen H. Estep, Chief. The Chief Editor of this book was Karen Howard Ashlin, assisted by Scott Andreae, Brad Brooks, Anna Glover, Margaret A. Hemmig, Carolyn W. Hill, Alfred Jones, Rachel Rondell, Cheryl E. Sirofchuck, and Michael J. Sullivan.

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Richard L. Claypoole
Director of the Federal Register

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Archivist of the United States

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Secretary of Health and Human Services	Donna E. Shalala
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Secretary of Transportation	Federico Peña
Secretary of Energy	Hazel Rollins O'Leary
Secretary of Education	Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	Jesse Brown
United States Representative to the United Nations	Madeleine Korbel Albright
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency	Carol M. Browner
United States Trade Representative	Michael Kantor
Director of the Office of Management and Budget	Alice M. Rivlin

Chief of Staff	Leon E. Panetta
Counselor to the President	Thomas F. McLarty III
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers	Joseph E. Stiglitz
Director of National Drug Control Policy	Lee Patrick Brown
Administrator of the Small Business Administration	Philip Lader
Director of Central Intelligence	John M. Deutch

Administration of William J. Clinton

1995