

May 17 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1996

I commend the United States-Austria Social Security Agreement and related documents to the Congress.

The White House,
May 17, 1996.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Malaysia-United States Extradition Treaty

May 17, 1996

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Malaysia, and a related exchange of notes signed at Kuala Lumpur on August 3, 1995.

I transmit also for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty. As the report explains, the Treaty will not require further implementing legislation.

This Treaty will, upon entry into force, enhance cooperation between the law enforcement communities of both countries. It will thereby

make a significant contribution to international law enforcement efforts.

The provisions in this Treaty follow generally the form and content of extradition treaties recently concluded by the United States. Upon entry into force of this Treaty, the Extradition Treaty between the United States and Great Britain signed at London December 22, 1931, will cease to have effect, with certain exceptions, between the United States and Malaysia.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
May 17, 1996.

Message on the Observance of Armed Forces Day

May 17, 1996

For forty-seven years, Armed Forces Day has been celebrated by the citizens of our great nation in recognition of our faith in America's men and women in uniform. This year's theme, "America's Armed Forces: Pillars of Freedom," is a testament to the quiet strength and steadfast resolve with which you, the members of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, uphold the standards of liberty around the world.

Day in and day out, under demanding and often perilous circumstances, you put your skills, your energy, and your very lives on the line in the service of your nation and your fellow citizens. Whether advancing peace in Bosnia, protecting democracy in Haiti, offering humani-

tarian aid to those in need, or remaining vigilant to the threats of tyrants and terrorists, you have set a shining example of service for all Americans, inspiring our young people and fulfilling our trust in you.

As Commander in Chief, I am proud that you are the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-led fighting force in the world. But we cannot rest on this record. On this Armed Forces Day, we must rededicate ourselves to keeping the U.S. military strong and confident—sustaining these true pillars that support freedom throughout the world.

I salute you for your courage and dedication in serving your country's cause, wherever and whenever you are called upon to do so, and

on behalf of a grateful nation, I thank you for what you have done and continue to do to keep America strong and free.

Best wishes for a memorable observance.

BILL CLINTON

Remarks at a Dinner for Representative Richard A. Gephardt in St. Louis, Missouri

May 17, 1996

Thank you very much. August Busch, thank you for that introduction. Thank you for your friendship and support. Thank you for all you do for this community.

To Representative Bill Clay and Representative Karen McCarthy, Mayor Freeman Bosley, your county executive, Buzz Westfall, ladies and gentlemen. I am delighted to be here today. I have been here all day. I have been to a wonderful high school. I have talked to a lot of wonderful young people. I have been with Congressman Gephardt and Mrs. Gephardt as we have stormed a bocce ball—or you say bocce here—a bocce ball arena, where I think I better go back to golf. But I loved playing.

In my public life I've had an opportunity to do a lot of things, but I have never given a speech in a domed football stadium before. I feel that I'd be better off passing or punting or something else. But I still feel like it's first down instead of fourth, so I'm going to try to get through the talk.

I know that St. Louis has done a lot of remarkable things in the last few years, including build this magnificent facility and attract the Rams here. I know you're looking forward to celebrating the centennial of the World's Fair and the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase. I'm always excited when I come here to the heartland, and I want to congratulate you for what you have done.

I feel deeply indebted to the people of Missouri for many things, and the people of this fine city. But I want to say a special word of thanks to those of you who met with my wife on her recent trip here. She had a wonderful time; she loved the reception. She sold a few of her books, and she came back in a very good humor. And that's something I was very grateful for. Thank you.

I'd also like to say a special word of thanks to you for keeping Dick Gephardt in the United

States House of Representatives and enabling him to help to lead our Democratic Party, the Democratic caucus in the House, and this country. I told a group of people earlier this evening that Dick Gephardt had done a lot for this country, and whenever I met him he always wanted to talk about issues of great national concern after he has twisted my arm for one more TWA route to somewhere. And believe me, even though I said "somewhere," I have the list in my pocket; I know exactly what I'm supposed to be lobbying for. *[Laughter]*

I had a wonderful time talking with Dick this afternoon about the weekends he comes home and just goes into neighborhoods and knocks on doors to talk to his constituents and ask them what they think. I must say that one of the things that I miss about public life since becoming President is that I don't get a chance to do that sort of thing so much anymore.

When I sought this office, some of the people on the other side used to make fun of me for being the Governor of a small Southern State. Well, I was, and I'm proud that I was. One of the great virtues of that is you got to know your people. And they felt they could call you by your first name, and they felt they could share their real feelings with you. And that's what helps to make democracy work. And I hope all of you appreciate just how rare it is to see a person who has years of national leadership experience like Dick Gephardt but never forgets the folks back home and always puts their concerns first. That's what makes American democracy work, and I am very grateful for him. And I know that you are, too.

I want to ask you to take just a few minutes tonight not so much to listen to me but to kind of listen to yourself. We're just 4 years away now from a new century, indeed a new millennium. We're going through a period of astonishing change in how we work, how we