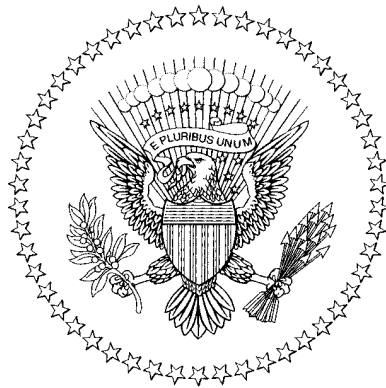


PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE
UNITED STATES

PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE
UNITED STATES

William J. Clinton



1997

(IN TWO BOOKS)

BOOK I—JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 1997

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1998



Published by the
Office of the Federal Register
National Archives and Records Administration

For sale by the
Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20402

Foreword

On the morning of May 2, 1997, on the banks of the Tidal Basin, I participated in the dedication ceremony for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, honoring this great leader of the “American Century.” Later that afternoon, in Baltimore, Maryland, I announced an historic agreement to balance the Federal budget. These two events—one, a reflection on our past, the other, a promise for our future—embodied the new American consensus on the role of Government that I have worked hard to forge since my first days as President.

We have quelled the contentious debate between those who view Government as the problem and those who view it as the solution. It is neither—as I stated in my Second Inaugural Address, which I had the great privilege to deliver. The challenges of a new age require not time-worn slogans but action. They require a limited, flexible Government characterized by fiscal discipline, enlightened innovation, and a commitment to creating opportunity for all Americans. The Government’s role—and its responsibility—is to affirm these cherished values in changing times.

Committed to these principles, America entered 1997 peaceful and secure, prosperous and stable, and determined to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. We discarded outdated dogmas and forged new relationships. In our own hemisphere, we celebrated the close friendship between the United States and Mexico, redefining our partnership in the face of new priorities—from combating drugs to preserving the environment. Across the Atlantic, where the barricades of the Cold War once stood, we built new alliances for global security and commerce. We completed new agreements: from the ratification of the landmark Chemical Weapons Convention, to the Founding Act that joins NATO and the Russian Federation in practical cooperation. In Helsinki, President Yeltsin and I agreed to pursue even deeper cuts in our nuclear arsenals. And in Denver, where I hosted the annual summit of the world’s industrialized democracies, we worked to combat new security threats, prepared our countries to succeed in the global economy, and opened a new chapter in the history of Europe.

Here at home, too, we set new and higher goals, refusing to grow complacent in our success. America’s economy was the strongest in a generation. Inflation remained low while employment surged, defying conventional wisdom, and both crime rates and welfare rolls were down dramatically. And to ensure that all Americans will share in the promise of the new century, I launched a national campaign to lift our standards of education. In my State of the Union Address I called not for a Federal mandate, but for a national commitment to tough, smart standards in education basics.

In June, at the University of California at San Diego, I opened a national dialogue on another challenge: race. When we finally lift the burden of race, it will not be because a law made it happen. It will be because the American people confronted and dispelled the myths that divide us. Americans of all backgrounds have responded to this challenge, leaving me more confident than ever that we will not come apart but come together; that we will enter the 21st Century not as separate, distinct groups, but as one America—at once diverse, and as the Founders declared, indivisible.

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 January 1–June 30, 1997. 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 included in the Public Papers series.

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, Maxine Hill, Michael Hoover, Alfred Jones, and Michael J. Sullivan.

The frontispiece and photographs used in the portfolio were supplied by the White House Photo Office. The typography and design of the book were developed by the Government Printing Office under the direction of Michael F. DiMario, Public Printer.

Raymond A. Mosley
Director of the Federal Register

John W. Carlin
Archivist of the United States

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Secretary of Defense	William S. Cohen
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Secretary of Agriculture	Dan Glickman
Secretary of Commerce	William M. Daley
Secretary of Labor	Alexis M. Herman
Secretary of Health and Human Services	Donna E. Shalala
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Andrew M. Cuomo
Secretary of Transportation	Rodney E. Slater
Secretary of Energy	Federico Peña
Secretary of Education	Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	Jesse Brown
United States Representative to the United Nations	Bill Richardson
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency	Carol M. Browner
United States Trade Representative	Charlene Barshefsky
Director of the Office of Management and Budget	Franklin D. Raines

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Counselor to the President	Thomas F. McLarty III
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers	Janet Yellen
Director of National Drug Control Policy	Barry R. McCaffrey
Administrator of the Small Business Administration	Aida Alvarez
Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency	James Lee Witt

Administration of William J. Clinton

1997