

July 31 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1997

Statement on the Nomination of General Michael E. Ryan To Be Air Force Chief of Staff

July 31, 1997

I am pleased to nominate General Michael E. Ryan to be Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force.

General Ryan currently serves as Commander, U.S. Air Forces Europe, and Commander, Allied Air Forces Central Europe. He brings to the job of Chief of Staff broad operational and joint experience as well as proven leadership ability and a deep concern for the men and women of the U.S. Air Force.

During his distinguished career, General Ryan served a combat tour in the Vietnam war and commanded a fighter squadron and fighter wing. As Commander, Allied Air Forces Southern Eu-

rope, he directed the highly successful airstrikes in Bosnia that convinced the warring factions they could not achieve their aims through military means, which contributed to our efforts to convene the negotiations that resulted in the Dayton accords.

General Ryan assumes the post of Chief of Staff as the U.S. Air Force proudly celebrates 50 years of dedicated service to our Nation in war and peace. With General Ryan as Chief of Staff, I am confident that the Air Force will continue its tradition of excellence as it enters the 21st century.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Iraq

July 31, 1997

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 Iraqi emergency is to continue in effect beyond August 2, 1997, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The crisis between the United States and Iraq that led to the declaration on August 2, 1990, of a national emergency has not been resolved. The Government of Iraq continues to engage

in activities inimical to the stability in the Middle East and hostile to United States interests in the region. Such Iraqi actions pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and vital foreign policy interests of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities necessary to apply economic pressure on the Government of Iraq.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
July 31, 1997.

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