

Apr. 26 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1999

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on Certification of the Nuclear Weapons Stockpile

April 23, 1999

Dear _____:

In my September 22, 1997, message transmitting the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification, I announced that I would provide to the appropriate committees of Congress the annual certification of the nuclear weapons stockpile by the Secretaries of Defense and Energy and accompanying report. Enclosed is a copy of that certification and report.

I am pleased to note the Secretaries' conclusion that the nuclear stockpile has no safety or reliability concerns that require underground testing at this time. Problems that have arisen in the stockpile are being addressed and resolved without underground nuclear testing to

ensure the stockpile remains safe and reliable. In reaching this conclusion, the Secretaries obtained the advice of the Directors of the National Weapons Laboratories, the Commander in Chief, United States Strategic Command, and the Nuclear Weapons Council.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Letters were sent to the congressional leadership and selected Representatives and Senators. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 26. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Statement on the Supreme Court's Decision To Consider the Food and Drug Administration's Regulation of Tobacco Products

April 26, 1999

I am very pleased that the Supreme Court has agreed to take up the case regarding the Food and Drug Administration's regulation of tobacco products. Almost 3 years ago, the FDA put in place a regulation to protect our children from tobacco, which the tobacco companies challenged in court. Every day 3,000 young peo-

ple become regular smokers, and 1,000 will have their lives cut short as a result. I remain firmly committed to the FDA rule, which will help stop young people from smoking before they start by eliminating advertising aimed at children and curbing minors' access to tobacco products.

Remarks at a Union of American Hebrew Congregations Dinner Honoring Rabbi David Saperstein

April 26, 1999

Thank you very much. Rabbi Yoffie—or Mr. President, should I say? [*Laughter*] My good friend Barney Frank—I would like to be furnished with a copy of the jokes he told before I got here. [*Laughter*] I want to thank Richard Ben-Veniste, Marian Edelman, Senator Metzenbaum, and others who organized this great dinner, and thank at least the Members of Congress

I have been told are here, Senator Wellstone, Representative Shelley Berkley, and Representative Tom Udall.

And like David, I would like to say to you, Mr. Landsburg, our prayers are with your daughter, and we're pulling for her, and we're proud that she's making the progress she is.