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Foreword

In the second half of 1999, the Nation's attention turned to meeting the challenges of a new millennium—and seizing the opportunities presented by our strong and growing economy.

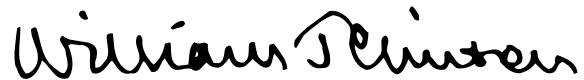
Our economic expansion continued to set records as the longest in America's peacetime history. The number of new jobs created since 1993 passed the 20 million mark, as unemployment reached its lowest level in 20 years, and unemployment among African-Americans and Hispanics fell to record lows. At the same time, America experienced the fastest and longest growth of real wages in two decades—and inflation fell to its lowest level since the 1960s. We achieved our first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years.

With support from Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, I launched a New Markets Initiative, to reach those parts of America that economic growth has passed by. We began with the principle that, just as we give companies incentives to invest in developing markets overseas, we should give them incentives to invest in inner cities, poor rural areas, and Native American reservations right here in America. As I traveled from Watts to the Mississippi Delta to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, I met a stream of talented people, eager for opportunity and ready to work. With investment incentives, loan programs, and support for business development, our New Markets Initiative is helping put them to work—and helping to keep our economy growing.

Working with the Congress, we made a bipartisan commitment to put 100,000 new teachers in our schools and 50,000 more police on our streets. We doubled funds for after-school programs. We provided, for the very first time ever, funds to help school districts turn around failing schools or shut them down. We funded 60,000 housing vouchers to help people move from welfare to work. Working with Senators Jeffords and Kennedy, we passed a bill allowing people with disabilities to move into the workplace and keep their government-funded health care.

We also reaffirmed our commitment to global leadership for peace and freedom in the century ahead by reaching an agreement with the Congress to pay our arrears to the United Nations. We reached a ground-breaking agreement to allow China to enter the World Trade Organization in exchange for China's opening its markets to U.S. goods. We continued our efforts to promote peace in the Middle East, working to assist negotiations between both Israel and Syria and Israel and the Palestinians. We concluded the adapted Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, which will help ensure military stability and predictability in Europe; and Russia committed to withdraw its forces from Georgia and Moldova. We helped conclude a Caspian pipeline agreement to further ensure our energy security and reinforce the independence of the new nations of Central Asia. In our own hemisphere, we honored America's commitment to entrust the Panama Canal to the government and people of Panama. We also gave strong support to the democratic transitions in Nigeria and Indonesia, and we led the way in negotiating an historic debt relief initiative for the poorest countries of the developing world.

We recommitted ourselves, as well, to meeting the challenges we face at the dawn of a new millennium, abroad and at home: the need to keep Social Security and Medicare safe and sound for future generations; the need to make sure the trade that keeps us prosperous becomes not just freer, but fairer; the need to bridge the digital divide between those who have and can use a computer, and those who do not or cannot; the need to manage the implications of new technology, new science, new ways of doing business. And perhaps the most important challenge of all: the imperative not to give in to complacency, but to use our prosperity for good—and for a better future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "W" and "C".

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, 1999. 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, Managing Editor, Office of the Federal Register. The series is produced by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Gwen H. Estep, Chief. The Chief Editors of this book were Karen Howard Ashlin and Anna Glover, assisted by Brad Brooks, Margaret A. Hemmig, Maxine Hill, Alfred Jones, Jennifer S. Mangum, Lisa N. Morris, Michael J. Sullivan, and Karen A. Thornton.

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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Attorney General	Janet Reno
Secretary of the Interior	Bruce Babbitt
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	Bill Richardson
Secretary of Education	Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	Togo D. West, Jr.
United States Representative to the United Nations	Richard C. Holbrooke
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency	Carol M. Browner
United States Trade Representative	Charlene Barshefsky
Director of the Office of Management and Budget	Jacob J. Lew

Chief of Staff	John D. Podesta
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers	Janet Yellen Martin N. Baily (effective August 12)
Director of National Drug Control Policy	Barry R. McCaffrey
Administrator of the Small Business Administration	Aida Alvarez
Director of Central Intelligence	George J. Tenet
Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency	James Lee Witt

Administration of William J. Clinton

1999