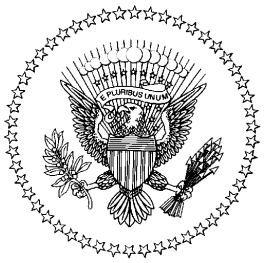
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Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents



Monday, September 5, 1994
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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents.*

Teleconference With Mayors on Crime Legislation and an Exchange With Reporters

August 26, 1994

The President. Hello? I'm just listening to your war stories; you sound good. I think they did help, all those calls you mentioned. They made all the difference.

The Attorney General and I are here on the phone, and we want to begin by just thanking you for everything you have done. I think, you know, it's obvious that this was a very tough battle in the House and in the Senate, that the outcome was often in doubt, and you guys hung in there tough. And you made a huge difference, and we are very, very grateful to you.

I know that you know well that among the things that this crime bill does is to create 100,000 new police officers, a 20 percent increase in police on the beat in the United States in communities all over this country. And in just a few minutes, I'm going to sign an appropriations bill here that makes available the first round of resources to make the crime bill a reality next year. We've already put some new police officers on the street through the funds we provided last year as a downpayment on the crime bill. The bill I'm about to sign will provide funds to train and hire 15,000 more police within the next 12 months. I know that some of you put police officers on the streets with last year's funds, but you probably all know that we received 10 times, 10 times as many applications for police hiring as we could afford, including many that were well-qualified. That is a real rebuke to those who say that there's no real need for this police funding. In the next 2 months alone, we're going to give you the resources to hire 2,500 more police officers in cities that were only turned down last year and this year because we didn't have enough money.

Let me emphasize, too, that this appropriations bill, consistent with the crime bill, provides significant money to fight violence against women, to lock up criminal aliens, for prisons, and for boot camps and drug courts and the other prevention programs that we believe so strongly in and also to help enforce the Brady bill. This is the downpayment. We're looking forward to seeing you all here when we sign the crime bill and celebrate it, but now I think we all know that the responsibility is on those of us who fought so hard for this to make sure the money is well spent, to make sure the implementation works, and to make sure that we make people safer and more secure on our streets.

General Reno, would you like to say something?

[*Attorney General Reno expressed her appreciation to the mayors for their hard work and stated that she looks forward to working with them to implement the bill. However, during her remarks one of the mayors indicated they were not receiving the transmission. When the problem was resolved, the President resumed.*]

The President. Mayor Giuliani, are you on? Go ahead, Mayor.

[*Mayor Rudolph Giuliani of New York City, commended the President and the other mayors on their efforts on the crime bill.*]

The President. Thank you, Mayor. I have to say, I think the fact that you and Mayor Riordan and some of the other Republican mayors were willing to stand up and be counted on this made it easier for the House and the Senate Members of your party who wanted to join in this endeavor to stay with it. And I can't thank you enough for that.

I think, you know, we have got to find a way to do the public's business on issues that affect all Americans without regard to their party. And there is nothing more profoundly significant than this. I just—I can't say

enough to thank you. We tried to take this crime bill beyond the debates of the past, beyond what I like to call the false choices that have been imposed too often on political debates.

This bill has got prevention and prisons and punishment and police in it, and I think will help to empower communities to make their streets safer. And as the Attorney General said, that's what, to me, was the compelling attraction of this bill. And as the days and weeks ahead unfold, the American people will learn more and more about what's in this bill, and I think they will like it even better than they do. And you will always, I think, be very proud of what you did.

Mayor Daley.

[*Mayors Richard Daley of Chicago, IL, Norman Rice of Seattle, WA, Richard Riordan of Los Angeles, CA, and Emanuel Cleaver II of Kansas City, MO, each made brief remarks praising the President's efforts on the crime bill. Mayor Cleaver then stated that he hoped the President would be able to take his vacation.*]

The President. Well, I'm going to oblige you later today. Are you still running, Mayor?

Mayor Cleaver. Yes.

The President. You've gotten so thin you're making me look bad. [*Laughter*] Stay after it.

Mayor Cleaver. All right.

The President. Mayor Rendell, I just want to say before you speak that I think you and Mayor Daley and Mayor Giuliani and the other mayors who are former prosecutors, were able to make a unique contribution to this debate because we tried to keep always in the public mind and in the minds of the Members of Congress that the law enforcement concerns were driving this bill and that even the prevention programs, as the Attorney General said repeatedly, were pushed and inserted into the bill with the insistence of people who had been in law enforcement who knew that they were a critical part of this strategy. So I want to thank you for that especially because your conviction here was rooted in your experience as is the case of the mayors—the other mayors who are former prosecutors.

[*Mayor Edward Rendell of Philadelphia, PA, thanked the President for not backing down on the key components of the bill though it must have been difficult.*]

The President. Just another day in paradise here. [*Laughter*]

[*Mayor Rendell discussed the importance of crime prevention programs and the provision to prevent Federal courts from controlling the number of prisoners placed in State or local prisons.*]

The President. Well, I can tell you, as a former Governor, that's one provision I wanted in there in the worst way, because I went through all those lawsuits as an attorney general and Governor; I know what it's like. I spent millions and millions of dollars of our taxpayers' money at home building prisons. I didn't begrudge that, but I also thought a lot of those requirements on spacing and population were excessive. And this is a very good piece of legislation on that. I thank you for that.

Mayor Abramson, I think you get the prize for making the most telephone calls. You must have a cauliflower ear; they tell me you made over 200 calls on this bill.

[*Mayor Jerry Abramson of Louisville, KY, thanked the President for allowing mayors and police chiefs to help develop a balanced bill.*]

The President. Thank you very much. General, do you want to say anything? I think they can all hear you now.

Attorney General Reno. They just did a wonderful job from the very beginning, and I think the bill is strong because of them.

The President. Thank you so much.

The Mayors. Thank you, Mr. President. Have a good vacation.

The President. Let's go to work on this thing now and implement it right.

The Mayors. All right, we'll do that.

The President. Goodbye.

[*At this point, the teleconference ended, and the President then took questions from reporters.*]

Health Care Reform

Q. Mr. President, Senator Mitchell all but said today that he's not going to be able to

get comprehensive health care reform through and that he'll spend the recess looking for ways to make progress on health care. Is that acceptable to you? Is there any point at which you would accept, or which you would take off your veto threat?

The President. Well, he's coming over here to see me today, and I think I better talk to him. I have talked to, oh, four or five other Senators in the last day or so since the crime bill passed last night. And a number of them who are strong supporters of health reform think that we ought to give this break a few days to occur and give Senator Mitchell and Senator Chafee and a couple of others a chance to talk before we make any decision.

I certainly don't want to embrace an approach that will do more harm than good and that won't achieve our objectives. But let's see what they're doing; let's see what people are feeling like after they get a night's sleep or two. These folks went through an awful lot here the last couple of weeks, and it may be that the long road they had to walk through—crime—was in part made longer by people who were working the timetable.

But they did it, and they deserve a lot of credit. And one of the things that this crime bill shows—this is a big, sweeping, complex piece of legislation that's really good for America. And it shows that it is possible to do something like this in what has been too often a too partisan environment. So I'm not prepared to make a final judgment on that at this time.

Q. Mr. President, you said just a moment ago that you didn't want to embrace an approach that would do more harm than good. That sounds like you'd be willing to wait.

The President. Well, I think the less I say right now, the better. Let me talk to Senator Mitchell. This debate is now going on in the Congress. It depends on what Congress is capable of producing. And I think we need to wait on that. That's the counsel I've been given by a number of Senators who do want health care reform and want it as quickly as we can get it. They think we ought to let the dust settle a couple of days and give Senator Mitchell a chance to do a little talking with some others for a couple of days, and then we'll see where we are.

Cuba

Q. Mr. President, do you think you've stemmed the tide of the Cuban refugees?

The President. Well, we're working at it, that's all I can tell you. I'm encouraged that the numbers are down. The weather may or may not have something to do with that. We have made it clear that we're willing to discuss, through the appropriate channels, the whole issue of immigration. And we do have laws on the books which will permit us to do some more on legal immigration than we have done. So we're working at this.

And I just want to say what I said yesterday: The Attorney General's doing a great job; the Immigration and Naturalization Service folks are doing a good job. We just need to be calm, steady, and firm, and I think we'll work through it just fine.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:20 p.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Statement on Signing the Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994

August 26, 1994

I am very pleased today to sign H.R. 2178, the ''Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994.'' This accomplishes two important objectives of my Administration—reducing outmoded and unnecessary Government regulation and enhancing public safety on our Nation's roads.

This is the second piece of important legislation that I have approved this summer to reduce unnecessary government regulation of the trucking industry, thereby helping to keep our economy strong and competitive. Title VI of the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–305) removed the heavy burden of inconsistent State regulation of the trucking industry, which costs consumers up to $8 billion a year in added freight transportation costs for virtually everything we buy. Title II of the Act that I am signing today provides additional regulatory reforms at the Federal level.

Title II will greatly reduce the massive Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) paperwork burdens faced by the trucking industry, while preserving existing Federal safety regulations. The Act also continues the process of streamlining the ICC's programs, and requires a study of how to do even more to reduce further the scope of regulatory requirements that have outlived their usefulness. I expect the Secretary of Transportation and the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission to be both deliberate and thorough in identifying the remaining reforms that are necessary.

In addition to streamlining regulatory requirements, this Act authorizes a strong Federal program to regulate hazardous materials transportation. It authorizes additional appropriations for the training of emergency response personnel; makes Indian tribes eligible for emergency response planning grants; and ensures that the National Intelligent Vehicle Highway System Program addresses the use of its technologies to promote hazardous materials safety. These measures will promote the continued safe transportation of hazardous materials and aid in our efforts to increase the safe operation of all commercial motor vehicles.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 26, 1994.

NOTE: H.R. 2178, approved August 26, was assigned Public Law No. 103–311. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Statement on Signing the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

August 26, 1994

Today I have signed into law, H.R. 4603, the "Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 1995, and Supplemental Appropriations for FY 1994."

This Act provides funding for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State; the Judiciary; and several smaller agencies.

This Act marks a bold first step in our effort to combat violent crime in America. In this Act, the Congress has provided $2.3 billion in funding to support the key new programs in the newly-passed Crime Bill. Foremost, the bill makes good on the promise of the Crime Bill by providing $1.3 billion to begin putting 100,000 new police officers on the street over the next 6 years.

The Act will enable the Justice Department to escalate its efforts to secure the border and to control illegal immigration. Resources are provided to expand the number of agents at high-risk crossing points to deter illegal immigration, improve the equipment available to agents to increase their effectiveness, expedite deportations of criminal illegal aliens, and increase asylum adjudications. The Act also provides, for the first time, a funding source to help States that are burdened by large numbers of criminal illegal aliens in their prisons. This $130 million initiative highlights the Federal Government's commitment to share the responsibility for reducing the fiscal impact of illegal immigration with affected States.

A total of $100 million is provided to States to upgrade their criminal records databases, continuing implementation of the Brady Bill to ensure that handguns stay out of the hands of criminals. Innovative programs such as boot camps and drug courts are supported to promote cost-effective methods of dealing with young nonviolent offenders. Finally, funds are provided to stop or penalize those criminals who prey, intentionally, on women.

This Act, coupled with the Crime Bill, will provide the foundation for our bold new strategy of fighting crime in the United States.

The Act also provides important funding for some of my investment priorities, including development of the information highway, the defense conversion projects of the Economic Development Administration, and projects to foster high technology at the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

In addition to providing important funding for fiscal year 1995, the Act provides urgently needed emergency funding for fiscal year 1994. Due to an increased need for disaster assistance, stemming primarily from the Northridge earthquake in California and the

recent flooding in the Southeast, the Disaster Loan Program of the Small Business Administration (SBA) is out of funds. This Act provides $470 million for SBA's Disaster Loan Program. Concurrently with signing H.R. 4603 into law, I am informing the Congress of my designation of these funds as an emergency requirement, thereby making them available.

Finally, this Act provides important funding for our contribution to United Nations international peacekeeping efforts around the world. These efforts are essential to reducing regional tensions and preventing or stopping the horror of war.

Unfortunately, the Act does not provide sufficient funding for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for fiscal year 1995. If the Congress does not provide additional funds for the SEC before adjourning in October, the SEC will have to shut down before the Congress returns next year. To avoid this, I urge the Congress to enact legislation providing the necessary budgetary resources for the SEC prior to the start of the new fiscal year.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 26, 1994.

NOTE: H.R. 4603, approved August 26, was assigned Public Law No. 103–317. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Appointment for the President's Committee on Mental Retardation

August 26, 1994

The President today announced the appointment of Ann M. Forts of Center Harbor, New Hampshire, as a member of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation (PCMR).

Ms. Forts will become the second self-advocate [a person with mental retardation] to serve as a member of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation and the second self-advocate appointed by the President to serve on the Committee.

In appointing Ms. Forts, the President praised the contribution that she will make as a self-advocate on the PCMR Board: ''Ann Forts represents the goal of my administration in meeting the needs of citizens with disabilities. By listening to citizens with disabilities, as experts about their lives and what they need to live healthy and productive lives, we will be able to pursue our common vision of moving from exclusion to inclusion, from dependence to independence, from paternalism to empowerment. I look forward to the insight and wisdom Ann Forts will share with the members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.''

NOTE: A biography of the appointee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

August 27, 1994

Good morning. This has been an historic week for the American people. After 6 years of talking about crime, Members of Congress in both Houses from both parties overcame their partisan divisions and the false choices of the past to pass the toughest attack on crime in history. With a little good faith and an awful lot of hard work, both Democrats and Republicans took a stand against crime as the American people had demanded they do for years.

For all those Americans who want Washington to work for them, passing the crime bill shows we can break the stranglehold of politics-as-usual and solve the problems you sent us all here to solve.

Crime and violence have been increasing for a long time. Too many law-abiding citizens have been killed on their streets and in their homes. Too many of our children have been terrified on their streets and in their schools. Too many police officers have been killed in the line of duty, too many families torn apart. But for 6 years, Washington just talked about the crime problem and failed to act. But this week, Congress acted. The special interests lost. The public interest won. Democrats and Republicans came together without regard to party to make America safer, and every American can take heart.

This is how Washington should work. It's how I wanted a Washington to work when I came here as President, and how I hope it will work in the future. All the elements of an anticrime program I talked about in my campaign for President are present in this bill and a lot more good things as well.

This crime bill will put 100,000 more police on our streets in community policing, walking the beat, preventing crime, as well as catching criminals. That's a 20 percent increase in the number of police officers in America. It will provide more prisons and longer sentences for violent criminals. It will lock up the most dangerous criminals for good by making "three strikes and you're out" the law of the land. It will provide greater protection to women and children by imposing tougher penalties on those who prey on them. It will say to anyone who kills a police officer, "You, too, can pay with your life."

The crime bill answers the call of police officers everywhere to do more to prevent crime from happening in the first place. It will help to steer young people away from gangs and drugs by helping them learn right from wrong and giving them something to say yes to as well as something to say no to.

This bill does make it clear that some things are very wrong and young people must say no to them. That's why it prohibits juveniles from owning handguns and prohibits them from using them except under the supervision of a qualified adult. And this bill does something else that police officers have wanted us to do for a very long time. It bans assault weapons that were designed for soldiers to use in war but that have been used instead by gang members and gangsters to make war on police and innocent citizens.

And in another dramatic departure from politics as usual, this entire crime bill will be paid for not with new taxes, not by increasing the deficit but by reducing the Federal work force by over a quarter of a million people to its lowest level in 30 years and taking all that money to empower people to make their lives safer. More police on the street, less Government in Washington, that's a good deal for the American people.

Let's remember why this bill finally passed. It passed because half a million police officers who risk their lives every day stood up and made their voices heard. It passed because the families of innocent victims like Polly Klaas stood up and made their voices heard. It passed because parents and teachers and senior citizens who want their streets back stood up and made their voices heard, the ordinary voices of ordinary Americans that Washington so often ignored. This week, they weren't ignored. This week they were heard, and they made all the difference.

We know many challenges remain. We waited 6 years for a crime bill. Now we have to implement that bill and make it work in the lives of the American people. But the American people have waited 60 years for Washington to do something comprehensive about health care. It's a difficult challenge; there are even more interest groups irate against making real change. But we have to meet it because it affects our children, our families, and our future, our human quality of life and our ability to pay for the basic things in life as well as to run the Federal Government without increasing the deficit.

Already we've made more progress on health care than ever before. Members of both parties are trying hard to work out their differences. And health care will be the first order of business when Congress returns. We have to continue this fight; we have to win it.

The crime bill shows we can. It shows that when we put aside the rhetoric and the partisanship, we can solve any issue and meet any challenge. Its narrow victory also shows the damage, the danger that partisanship can bring to our deliberation. But we can get past the partisan static that drowns out the voices of ordinary Americans. We can put cooperation over confrontation. We can move America forward. We can put the American people first, and we proved it this week.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 5:35 p.m. on August 26 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 27.

Executive Order 12925—Establishing an Emergency Board To Investigate a Dispute Between the Soo Line Railroad Company and Certain of Its Employees Represented by the United Transportation Union

August 29, 1994

A dispute exists between the Soo Line Railroad Company and certain of its employees represented by the United Transportation Union.

The dispute has not heretofore been adjusted under the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, as amended (45 U.S.C. 151–188) (the ''Act'').

In the judgment of the National Mediation Board, this dispute threatens substantially to interrupt interstate commerce to a degree that would deprive a section of the country of essential transportation service.

Now, Therefore, by the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 10 of the Act, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Establishment of Emergency Board* (''*Board*''). There is established, effective August 29, 1994, a Board of three members to be appointed by the President to investigate this dispute. No member shall be pecuniarily or otherwise interested in any organization of railroad employees or any railroad carrier. The Board shall perform its functions subject to the availability of funds.

Sec. 2. *Report.* The Board shall report to the President with respect to the dispute within 30 days of its creation.

Sec. 3. *Maintaining Conditions.* As provided by section 10 of the Act, from the date of the creation of the Board and for 30 days after the Board has submitted its report to the President, no change in the conditions out of which the dispute arose shall be made by the parties to the controversy, except by agreement of the parties.

Sec. 4. *Records Maintenance.* The records and files of the Board are records of the Office of the President and upon the Board's termination shall be maintained in the physical custody of the National Mediation Board.

Sec. 5. *Expiration.* The Board shall terminate upon the submission of the report provided for in sections 2 and 3 of this order.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 29, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:16 a.m., August 30, 1994]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on August 31.

Statement on the Death of Drug Enforcement Administration Agents

August 30, 1994

I join the American people in mourning the deaths of five young agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, lost when their plane crashed in Peru this past weekend. Agents Frank Fernandez, Jay Seale, Meredith Thompson, Frank Wallace, and Juan Vars demonstrated a true devotion to duty and a commitment to ridding our country of the scourge of illegal drugs.

Every day, dedicated men and women risk their lives in the international war against drugs. Working with officials from many nations, our DEA agents have made great progress in this struggle. But, as we have seen this week, this war is not an easy one. Even our most valiant young soldiers fall victim.

These courageous agents served to make America's streets safer for our children, and, in their names, we rededicate ourselves to fighting drug production, trafficking, and use.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I extend deepest sympathies to the families of these heroic individuals. Their bright lives will remain inspirations to all of us.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

Letter on Appointments for Presidential Emergency Board No. 225

August 30, 1994

Dear Mr. Twomey:

Pursuant to section 10 of the Railway Labor Act, as amended, I established by Executive order an Emergency Board to investigate a dispute between the Soo Line Railroad Company and certain of its employees represented by the United Transportation Union. The functions and the duties of the Emergency Board are set forth in the Railway Labor Act, as amended, and in the Executive order creating the Board.

I am pleased to learn that you are willing to serve on this Emergency Board, and I hereby appoint you as Chair. This letter will constitute your appointment and your authority to act in that capacity. Each Member of the Board is to receive compensation at the rate of $429.00 per day for each day that you are actually engaged in the performance of your duties or in travel in connection therewith. In addition, each Member of the Board will be allowed per diem in lieu of subsistence while so engaged away from your home or your regular place of business.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This letter was sent to David Twomey, Chair, and similar letters were sent to Richard P. Kasher and Elizabeth Neumeier, members of the emergency board established to investigate the dispute between the Soo Line Railroad Co. and the United Transportation Union. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 31.

Statement on the Peace Process in Northern Ireland

August 31, 1994

I welcome today's watershed announcement by the IRA that it has decided to end the 25-year campaign of violence and pursue the path of peace. While much work remains to be done, the IRA's decision to join the political process can mark the beginning of a new era that holds the promise of peace for all the people of Northern Ireland.

I have just spoken with Prime Minister Albert Reynolds of Ireland and Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom to congratulate them for their persistent efforts to bring this day about. Their joint resolve to end the violence and pursue a negotiated settlement has been crucial to the progress made to date. Their historic joint declaration last December, together with the Anglo-Irish agreement of 1985, have built the foundation for the new hope we have today. I am pleased that the United States has been able to contribute to this process of reconciliation.

We join with the Governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom in the hope and expectation that today's step will help bring a lasting and just peace to Northern Ireland. I urge the IRA and all who have supported it to fulfill the promise of today's announcement to end the use and support of violence, just as we continue to call on all parties who have sought to achieve political goals through violence to cease to do so. There must be a permanent end to the violence.

The United States continues to stand ready to assist in advancing the process of peace in Northern Ireland. We hope that both traditions, unionist and nationalist, will support the only real avenue to peace, that of a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

Statement on Withdrawal of Russian Forces From Eastern Europe

August 31, 1994

Today marks the completion of the withdrawal of Russian military forces from the Republic of Estonia and the Latvian Republic, under terms of bilateral agreements concluded between Russia and each of these sovereign states. Russian military forces are also completing their withdrawal today from the Federal Republic of Germany, in accordance with the agreements reached between Germany and the Soviet Union in October 1990. These withdrawals constitute the final departure of Russian troops that have been present in Eastern Europe since 1945.

This effectively brings to an end a chapter in post-World War II European history, opening the door to a new era of regional stability and cooperation. I congratulate the

people of Estonia, Germany, Latvia, and Russia on this historic occasion and salute their leaders for the vision and statesmanship they have demonstrated on behalf of European integration. The United States will continue its active support for this process with the goal of a brighter and more peaceful future for all of our people in the next century.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on the Revised Pay Schedule for Federal Employees

August 31, 1994

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Action on the FY 1995 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Bill, will not be completed before the August 31st deadline for an alternative pay plan. Therefore, as a protective measure, in order to ensure that a substantially larger pay increase does not go into effect automatically by operation of law, it is necessary for me to transmit an alternative pay plan.

Under section 5303(a) of title 5, United States Code, the rates of basic pay of the statutory pay systems would be increased by 2.6 percent effective in January 1995.

Section 5303(b) of title 5, however, provides me the authority to implement an alternative pay adjustment plan if I consider the pay adjustment that would otherwise be required by law to be inappropriate because of ''national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare.'' As you know, alternative pay plan authority has been used many times over the past 15 years. ''Serious economic conditions'' are defined in the statute to include consideration of economic measures such as the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the Gross National Product, the unemployment rate, the budget deficit, the Consumer Price Index, the Producer Price Index, the Employment Cost Index, and the Implicit Price Deflator for Personal Consumption Expenditures.

The budget discipline put in place by my Administration has contributed to sustained economic growth and low inflation. To continue this budget discipline and its favorable impact on economic conditions I have determined that an alternative pay adjustment is appropriate for the 1995 pay raise under section 5303.

The 1995 budget I submitted to the Congress proposed a modest pay increase of 1.6 percent for Federal employees. I believed that this was an appropriate increase in view of the other disciplines we have worked with the Congress to put in place that have reduced the Federal budget deficit and improved our Nation's economy. Further, we are currently making substantial reductions in Federal employment pursuant to the Federal Workforce Restructuring Act enacted by the Congress this year. To achieve these reductions, many agencies are offering Federal employees early retirement and incentives of up to $25,000 to leave Federal service. These considerations, as well, lead me to conclude that the substantially larger pay increase that would otherwise automatically go into effect is not appropriate at this time.

The House version of the 1995 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Bill includes a provision offered by Representative Steny Hoyer that provides a section 5303 pay raise of 2.0 percent and a limited section 5304 locality pay raise. The Senate version of the bill has no pay raise provision. The Administration has informed the conference committee that it would not object to the pay raise in the House version of the bill if military personnel receive a pay raise higher than the 1.6 percent proposed in the 1995 budget. It appears likely that the 1995 Defense Authorization Bill will provide military members a 2.6 percent raise.

Consistent with the provisions of the House-passed Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Bill, the pay raise will be made in accordance with the following plan:

In accordance with section 5303(b) of title 5, United States Code, the pay rates for each statutory pay system shall be increased by 2.0 percent, effective on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 1995.

The statute also provides me alternative plan authority for locality-based comparability payments, or locality pay, under section 5304 of title 5. The deadline for transmitting this alternative plan to Congress is November 30. In the absence of legislation, it would be

my intent to provide Federal civilians with locality pay raises that equal 0.6 percent of civilian payroll.

In my opinion, this alternative pay plan for a 2 percent pay increase under section 5303 will not materially affect the Government's ability to recruit or retain well-qualified employees. Federal hiring rates and attrition rates are very low. In addition, most employees will receive other pay increases, such as locality pay and within-grade increases. Thus, we have every reason to believe that these pay increases, coupled with appropriate use of pay flexibilities such as recruitment bonuses and retention allowances, will allow the Federal Government to continue to be competitive in attracting and retaining quality employees.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Remarks to the Irish Media on the Peace Process in Northern Ireland in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

September 2, 1994

Let me say first of all, I am so pleased to have Dick Spring here. And I'm pleased that he came across the ocean to visit with me and others in the United States who very much want this process to succeed.

I am delighted by the developments of the last several days and by all the efforts that have been made in the last few months. The United States is strongly supportive of this peace process. We want to reach out and work with all the elements in Ireland, in Northern Ireland. We want all the communities to feel a part of the peace process and to feel that there is a peace dividend. We want to continue to work with and support the work of the Government of Ireland and the Government of Great Britain. And we are prepared to take some steps to do whatever we can to help that now.

Dick is going to talk at greater length about some of the specific things we talked about here today, but the United States has tried to be a friend of peace in Ireland, and we will continue to do that. And we're very, very pleased by the developments.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 11 a.m. at the Friedman Guest House. In his remarks, he referred to Irish Foreign Minister Richard Spring. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message on the Observance of Labor Day, 1994

September 2, 1994

As Americans celebrate our nation's 100th Labor Day holiday, we take time out of our busy schedules to recognize and to appreciate the importance of America's working men and women. We as a people strive to put our talents and interests to use every day. We find joy in learning new skills and in making new discoveries. It is in no small measure the many rewards we find in labor that make America's workers the finest in the world.

As our country faces an increasingly competitive international marketplace, America's tradition of innovation and progress is more important than ever. Today's world demands that we reinvent the compact between labor and management, guided by a firm commitment to ongoing dialogue and cooperation. It requires that our nation make use of the tools at hand: our abundant land, our diverse and determined people, and our shared belief in the values of hard work and fair play.

Working together, we have the power to build a new partnership for prosperity. We know how to improve quality and efficiency, to reduce production costs and to increase profits—knowledge that will serve to benefit employer and worker alike. With a renewed dedication to providing education and retraining, we can craft a work force ready to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century and beyond.

This year, we resolve to press forward in our efforts to promote new growth and opportunities, creating safe and healthy working conditions that enable our citizens to be good workers and good parents. For at the heart of the American Dream is the American family. And our goal must be to make the Dream a reality for all of our families. Indeed, as we celebrate Labor Day this cen-

tennial year, that common vision inspires us still.

Best wishes to all for a memorable holiday.

Bill Clinton

NOTE: The message was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 2 but was not issued as a White House press release.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

NOTE: The President and Hillary and Chelsea Clinton were vacationing on Martha's Vineyard, MA, during the period covered by this issue. The Office of the Press Secretary released no public schedule for the President during this period.

August 29

The President announced his intention to appoint Anita Arnold to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

September 2

The President announced his intention to nominate R. Keith Higginson as a member of the Advisory Commission on Western Water Resources Policy.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements

Released August 29

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers announcing the establishment of Presidential Emergency Board No. 225

Released August 31

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers announcing a revised pay schedule for Federal white-collar employees

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on the President's letter to the chairman and members of Presidential Emergency Board No. 225

Released September 2

Transcript of a press briefing by Foreign Minister Dick Spring of Ireland

Transcript of a press briefing by Labor Secretary Robert Reich and Council of Economic Advisers Chair Laura D'Andrea Tyson on the national economy

Statement by Council of Economic Advisers Chair Laura D'Andrea Tyson on the national economy

Acts Approved by the President

NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.