To help launch the economic recovery more immediately, I am pleased to announce that today I will sign an Executive order lifting all economic sanctions against Haiti after President Aristide returns. Now that the coup leaders have departed, democracy is being restored, the sanctions have clearly served their purpose; by lifting trade, banking, and travel restrictions, we can help to give back to the Haitian people the opportunities they need to grow and to prosper and to preserve their freedom.

Ultimately, the task of rebuilding Haiti belongs to the people of Haiti themselves. Theirs will be a long and hard road. Each and every citizen must make a contribution. It will take a lot of patience, but it will be a joyous effort if it is done in the right spirit and if the rest of us do our part to help.

The progress will begin with reconciliation, as the President has said. He will go home in that spirit, vowing to oppose all who seek revenge and retribution. Tomorrow, when he resumes his duties, as he has said, it will be just the beginning. But what a beginning it is.

President Aristide has also vowed to step down at the end of his term, leaving his office to the next democratically elected President. In one of the most insightful comments about democratic government I have ever heard, he has said that when you start a democracy the most important election is the second one. This is the kind of insight that will serve Haiti so well in the years ahead.

Let me conclude by expressing my gratitude to all those who have done their part to give Haiti a second chance, something we need more for not only countries but people in this old world. I thank the 30 countries whose troops are in Haiti as part of the multinational coalition and all the nations who joined our multilateral efforts in the Caribbean community, the Organization of American States, and United Nations. Your efforts have made our hemisphere safer and sent a message of resolve around the world.

I thank the men and women of our Armed Forces who have answered the call and performed a difficult job with skill, devotion, and humanity. You are the steel in the sword of America's diplomacy. Thanks to your efforts, the world knows that we will stand for democracy, honor our commitments, and expect others to honor theirs.

I thank especially the families of our service members here at home, those who make such great sacrifices. Some of them, including the children, are here today, and I would like to ask them to stand and be recognized, the families of the service people serving in Haiti. [Applause]

And finally, to the American people, I say that although we are not, we cannot, and we should not be the policemen of the world, we have proved once again that America will stand up for others when the cause is clear, the mission is achievable, and our interests are at stake. The American people have done the right thing in Haiti. They have stood for what is best about America. And because of the support of the American people, democracy will be stronger tomorrow than it is today all around the world.

Finally, to President Aristide and the people of Haiti, for 3 years you have kept faith against all odds that one day a government of the people would be restored to your native land. Tomorrow will be that day. You have survived decades of violence, terror, poverty with dignity, pride, and hope. Now you and your people will have the opportunity to make democracy work for yourselves; to let all the children we are tired of seeing in turmoil on our newscasts become a part of that vast mass of humanity in free societies seeking their God-given potential. I say to you, bonne chance, Haiti toma. Good luck, and long live Haiti.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:20 a.m. at the North Portico of the West Wing at the White House.

Executive Order 12932—Termination of Emergency With Respect to Haiti
October 14, 1994

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the National Emergencies Act ("NEA") (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), section 5 of the United Nations Partici-

I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, find that the restoration of a democratically elected government in Haiti has ended the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States previously posed by the policies and actions of the de facto regime in Haiti and the need to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order No. 12775 of October 4, 1991, to deal with that threat.

I hereby revoke Executive Order Nos. 12775, 12779, 12853, 12872, 12914, 12917, 12920, and 12922 and terminate the national emergency declared in Executive Order No. 12775 with respect to Haiti.

Pursuant to section 202 of the NEA (50 U.S.C. 1622), termination of the national emergency with respect to Haiti shall not affect any action taken or proceeding pending not finally concluded or determined as of the effective date of this order, or any action or proceeding based on any act committed prior to the effective date of this order, or any rights or duties that matured or penalties that were incurred prior to the effective date of this order.

This order shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on October 16, 1994.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 14, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:00 p.m., October 14, 1994]

NOTE: This Executive order will be published in the Federal Register on October 18.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Haiti
October 14, 1994

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

On October 4, 1991, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), President Bush exercised his statutory authority to issue Executive Order No. 12775, declaring a national emergency and blocking Haitian government property. To further tighten the sanctions against Haiti, President Bush exercised his statutory authority to issue Executive Order No. 12779, and I acted pursuant to the same authorities as well as the United Nations Participation Act of 1945, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287c), to issue Executive Order Nos. 12853, 12872, 12914, 12917, 12920, and 12922.

In view of the restoration of a democratically elected government in Haiti, and taking into consideration United Nations Security Council Resolution 944 of September 29, 1994, I have determined that the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States previously posed by the policies and actions of the de facto regime in Haiti has terminated. Today, pursuant to the above authorities, I have exercised my statutory authority to issue an Executive order to terminate the national emergency declared in Executive Order No. 12775 and revoke the Executive orders referenced above imposing additional sanctions with respect to Haiti.

I have determined to issue the new Executive order terminating all remaining sanctions against Haiti in view of the return of Haiti’s legitimately elected President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 944, which rescinds mandatory sanctions against Haiti previously adopted by the Security Council with our support.

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 on Presenting Arts and Humanities Awards
October 14, 1994

Thank you very much. Ladies and gentlemen, Hillary and I are delighted to have all of you here today. This is the second year I’ve had the pleasure of honoring the winners of the National Medal of the Arts and the