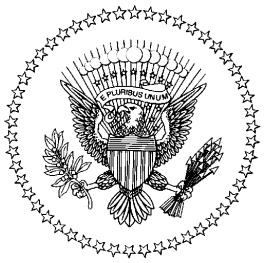
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Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents



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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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Remarks at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, Oklahoma

April 5, 1996

Thank you very much. Governor Nigh, Mrs. Nigh, Congressman Istook, Mr. Mayor, Mr. Speaker, the other distinguished guests on the platform, and to the students and the other members of the University of Central Oklahoma community and family, Governor David Walters and Mrs. Walters, and to all the people who are here with me today because of the mission we are on.

Let me say it's good to be back here. I heard the students laughing when Governor Nigh announced that I was here 8 years ago, and I was thinking, most of the students were in grade school the last time I was here. [*Laughter*] Later this year I'll be eligible for my AARP card—[*laughter*]—but I'm still glad to be here.

As all of you know, and as the Governor said, I came here today to Oklahoma to pay my respects nearly a year after the tragedy of the bombing, to attend a memorial service for the families of those who were victims, for the survivors and their families, and others who were Federal employees who worked there, and to help your State officials to dedicate the beginning of the child care center which will be rebuilt, which is a remarkable accomplishment, and to meet with this scholarship committee, which informed me of the results which were just announced to you by Governor Nigh.

And it is coming at an especially sad but ironically appropriate time, just a couple of days after we suffered the loss of our Secretary of Commerce and a number of fine Federal employees—some of them very young, barely older than some of the students here—a number of fine U.S. military personnel, and some of our country's most outstanding business leaders in that plane crash in Bosnia.

I would like to make just two points briefly. I know it's cold and you've been waiting a long time, but I ask you to reflect on two things. That plane went down in Bosnia full of people who have worked very hard to help the American people fulfill their potential. Ron Brown was immensely proud of the fact that more than any other Commerce Secretary and Commerce Department in our history, they had been instrumental in opening new avenues for people to buy American products and American services and create jobs for Americans, so that when young people get out of college they can get jobs, good jobs, jobs that pay better than average, jobs with a good future.

But these people went to Bosnia with only the most modest expectation of any personal gain for themselves. They went there to try to use the power of the American economy to help bring opportunity to the Bosnians so that peace wouldn't fall apart and instead would take hold.

But the main thing I want to say is that my friend Ron Brown, who grew up in Harlem, never forgot where he came from and spent his lifetime trying to help other people realize their dreams. When our hearts were breaking over what happened in Oklahoma City—it was this madness that somebody for some perverted political purpose could take everyone else's life away from them who weren't even standing in the way, they just happened to show up in the wrong time in the wrong place. And so I would like to say two things to you today.

First of all, all of us need to ask ourselves a year later, what are our responsibilities not only to help the children, who were tragically robbed of their parents in Oklahoma City, to fulfill their dreams but to provide that opportunity for all people? I've worked very hard to expand the quality and availability of college loans and the college scholarships for children of modest incomes. I'm still hoping we'll pass a balanced budget amendment

in our legislation in this Congress that will include a tax cut that gives families a deduction for the cost of college tuition, because I think it's the best possible tax break we could give America, to do that.

But this is not a political issue. Every American has an interest in seeing every other American be able to live out their dreams. And we have certain positive responsibilities, just like Ron Brown believed that we did, to try to do that, and access to higher education is, perhaps, the most important one.

The second thing I want to ask you about, especially the young people, is to think about where do we go from here. And as horrible and personal as the bombing of the Federal building was to you, I want you to try to step back a minute and put it in a larger context. It was, first and foremost, an act of terror. What is terror? Terror is when someone, allegedly for some philosophical or political reason, believes they have the right to take innocent lives, not people who are fighting them in war, not people who are wearing uniforms, not people who are staring at them across a battle line but just to take an action that will take the lives of people who just happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

And we are seeing that all over the world, and you see it in two ways. First, you see homegrown terror, people in your own country that are so profoundly alienated they think they have a right to do this. You've been reading about the Unabomber in recent days. That's an example of that. You remember when the religious fanatics in Japan broke open poison gas in the Japanese subway and killed a lot of people and a few days later could have killed hundreds more, but miraculously, the second attempt was thwarted. That's an example of that.

And then you have imported terrorism, where people come in from other countries, and they try to wreck your life to pursue their political ambitions. An example of that is the World Trade Center bombing. And it's really tough when they're coming from right next door, which is what is tearing the heart out of the people in the Middle East now. And you remember how recently we saw the people there—innocent, not only innocent Israelis, innocent Palestinians, innocent Moroccans, little children just blown away because some crackpot believes that it is a legitimate way to pursue your political philosophy to kill innocent civilians.

Now what I want to tell you today is—and I want you to think about this, especially the young people—the world you're living in and the world we're moving toward is going to offer you more opportunities to succeed, if you have a good education, than any generation of Americans has ever known. But the same forces that offer you those opportunities to succeed offer people opportunities to commit terrorist acts. And therefore, we must be more vigilant, more active, more determined than ever before.

Why is that? Well, just think about it. What's the world like now? Computer technology can now interface people all over the world. I'm trying to get every classroom and every library and every school in America connected to the Internet by the end of the decade. I know right now there are public schools in America where young junior high school students can get on the Internet and do research out of libraries in Asia and Australia, all over the world. Well, that also means that terrorist networks can get information about how to build bombs and how to wreak mischief if you just know how to find the right home page.

We've got to have open borders in order to move products and services around the world, in order for people to travel around the world. We have to be able to get around in a hurry. The more open the borders are, the more open the information is, the more vulnerable we are to things like money laundering and terrorists moving out of countries.

Now, that should not frighten you. The good news is we are reducing the traditional threats to your security and your future. Communism has failed. The cold war is over. We have agreed to treaties that will reduce by two-thirds the number of nuclear weapons that existed when the cold war was at its height. And for the first time in the history of nuclear weapons, for the last 2 years there's not a single nuclear weapon pointed at any American citizen. That is the good news.

That's the good news. But in an open world of easy information, quick technology, and rapid movements, we are all more vulnerable than we used to be to terrorism and its interconnected allies, organized crime, drug running, and the spread of weapons of destruction. And so I spend a lot of my time as your President trying to think about what we can do to minimize those dangers.

We've done a lot to try to fight terrorism. We've done a lot to try to fight drug trafficking. We've done a lot to try to fight the money laundering that goes along with all this, to try to help other countries stand up to organized crime, because nobody is immune from this. You see it in all of the places I cited. You see it when those terrible bombs go off in London. I saw it in Latin America where we have honest law enforcement officials in Colombia trying to help us crack the Colombian drug cartels. And the good news is we arrested seven top leaders in the last couple of years. The bad news is, 500 Colombians laid their lives down trying to break their country of the grip of drug cartels.

So what we have to do is to ask ourselves—our generation, the generation that preceded us, won World War II and then won the cold war—what we have to do now is to fight back these organized forces of destruction so all the opportunities that await you young people will be there and so you can pursue them without fear; so that if you're willing to work hard and obey the law and make the most of your own lives, you will be able to live out your dreams. That is what this is all about.

The lessons we have to take out of what happened to us at the World Trade Center, what happened to us in Oklahoma City, what we were able to avoid when we stopped terrorist attacks in the last 2 years on our own soil and against our airplanes as they were flying over the oceans, those are the things we have to learn.

Now, what I want to say to you is that, first, you've got to realize all these things work together. On the 19th of this month, when you all are observing the one-year anniversary, the reason I won't be here is I have to go to Russia to a nuclear summit. And part of it is about continuing to reduce nuclear weapons. But part of it is making sure that every place in the world that has the residue of the nuclear age, this nuclear material, make sure it is secure and safe and cannot be stolen, because we don't want our homegrown terrorists or our foreign terrorists to get their hands on nuclear material that, with just the size of a wafer, you could make a bomb 10 times more powerful than the one that destroyed your Federal building in Oklahoma City. So I have to go there. The United States has to be a part of that. And that's an important thing. But we also have to recognize that there are things that we have to do here at home.

Last year I asked people in the other parts of the world to stand with the United States because we took a tough stand against the countries that support terrorism, against Iran and Iraq and Sudan and Libya. And I get frustrated when they don't help. But when those bombs blew up in Israel, it sobered a lot of countries up, and in 3 days the President of Egypt and I were able to persuade 29 countries to send high-level leaders, including heads of state, to Egypt to meet to stand up against terrorism. We had Arab countries condemning terrorism in Israel for the first time.

So we've got—we're getting in a position now where the people are willing to say we can't let terrorism pay. We can't let terrorism pay. We've got to make sure that terrorists pay for what they're doing. We have to make sure that's true here and around the world.

When I was in Israel—and I suppose they have about as much experience with terrorism as anybody—I talked to leaders of both political parties. And they hardly agree on anything over there; they fight just like we do. [*Laughter*] But you know what? They were both agreed on one thing. They said you have got to continue to take the lead in the fight against terrorism, and you need to pass that legislation that you're trying to pass to crack down on the forces of terrorism in the United States and enable us to stand against them when they invade our country.

It's been almost a year since I was pledged that terrorism bill, and it's still not in the shape it needs to be. But let me just tell you three things that I think ought to be in it, and there's a big debate about it.

We know what kind of bomb blew up the Federal building. We propose that we be able to have markers that go into explosives when people buy them. Contractors don't have a thing in the world to fear. People need to buy explosives. You can't do a lot of work without them. But if explosives are used to kill innocent civilians, we ought to be able to find out where they came from and who bought them. That's what I believe, and I hope you do, too.

We ought to have explicit authority that permits the Attorney General of the United States to stop terrorist groups like Hamas from raising money in America. And if we catch people doing it, we ought to be able to throw them out of the country immediately—immediately, not after some long, drawn-out process.

We ought to have the best technology available to our law enforcement officials to keep up with these terrorists that move around in a hurry, and they're very sophisticated and very hard to catch. And we can do that without violating the civil liberties of the American people, without undermining the constitutional rights of criminal defendants.

But I'm telling you, folks, these people are smart. They understand computers. They understand information. They understand how to hide. They understand how to doctor bank records. They understand how to launder money.

And when it all comes down to it, just think of what would happen if Oklahoma City had happened 5 or 6 or 7 times within a month or two. Think what it would have done to the American people. Think what would have happened if 3,000 people had been killed at Oklahoma City and every American had felt like those people were within 50 miles of them. That's what happened in Israel just a few weeks ago. It can paralyze a country. It can take its heart out. It can take its confidence away. It can make young people believe they have no future.

Now, I am very optimistic about America's future, and I am proud of the work that our law enforcement officials have done in catching these people. And I am proud of the fact that we have caught and deported more terrorists in the last 3 years than at any time in our history put together. I am proud of that.

I am not saying these things to frighten any Americans. I am just telling you I have been around the world representing you; I've talked to people all over the world. I do not believe—if we can do our job and if we had just a little bit of luck—I do not believe that you will have to worry about a nuclear weapon wiping out a whole American community or killing lots of Americans in the way that our parents worried about us when I was growing up. But I do not believe you can fulfill your dreams and be totally free until we have taken the strongest possible stand against terrorism, organized crime, drug running, and weapon sales. And they are all related.

So I ask you, I ask you because you will have more weight than most people—this State has suffered, this State has felt it, this State understands the human dimension of people killing innocent people for perverted, allegedly political reasons—to say in simple, clear terms, this is not a political issue; this is not a partisan issue; this is not an ideological issue. This is a matter of America getting ready for the future and guaranteeing our young people the opportunities that they deserve to live out their God-given dreams and destiny.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:40 p.m. in the courtyard at the School of Education. In his remarks, he referred to George Nigh, president, University of Central Oklahoma, and his wife, Donna; Mayor Bob Rudkin of Edmond; and Glen Johnson, speaker, Oklahoma State House of Representatives. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Executive Order 12998—Amendment to Executive Order No. 11880

April 5, 1996

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, including section 3347 of title 5, United States Code, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 11880

of October 2, 1975, as amended, is further amended as follows:

A new section 2 of Executive Order No. 11880 shall be added to read: ''The President may at any time, pursuant to law but without regard to the foregoing provisions of this order, direct that an officer, as defined in 5 U.S.C. 3347, and specified by the President shall act as Secretary of Commerce.''

The present section 2 of Executive Order No. 11880, as amended, shall be redesignated as section 3.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 5, 1996.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:27 p.m., April 8, 1996]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on April 9. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Memorandum on Designation of Acting Secretary of Commerce

April 5, 1996

Memorandum for the Honorable Mary Lowe Good, Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology

Pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 3347 of title 5, United States Code, and Executive Order No. 11880, as amended, you are directed to perform the duties of the office of Secretary of Commerce, until such time as I appoint a Secretary of Commerce.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

April 6, 1996

Good morning. For millions of Americans this is an especially joyous time of year. All across our country, families come together to celebrate Easter or Passover; parents reunited with their children, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, friends joining in these celebrations of faith and renewal.

Yesterday in Oklahoma City, Hillary and I gathered with a remarkable American community to remember its loss and mark its passage from pain to hope. Nearly a year has passed since evil struck our heartland, killing 168 Americans, injuring many more, touching all of us. Yet from the moments terror's shadow darkened their lives, the people of Oklahoma City began their common effort to work together to rebuild their lives, their community, and their future.

The people of Oklahoma City have proved to the Nation that while the American spirit can be terribly tested, it cannot be defeated. They have shown our children that even in the wake of the most terrible tragedy, goodness can prevail.

The men, women, and children who fell beneath the rubble of the Murrah Federal Building were not cut down in a great battle, they were just ordinary Americans. Simple soldiers of the everyday, going to work, going to play, taking on their responsibilities as parents and providers and citizens.

Many of them were Government workers, laboring every day to help millions of their fellow citizens make the most of their own lives: caseworkers seeing to it that senior citizens received their Social Security; law enforcement officers keeping our streets safe, our schools free from drugs; military recruiters helping to keep our country strong. They're the people who make America work. They're what we mean when we speak of Government of, by, and for the people.

The work of Government employees isn't usually very glamorous, and it can be grindingly difficult. And as the tragic loss of Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown and his colleagues just a few days ago reminds us, sometimes it can also be very dangerous.

Later today, the Vice President and I will make a sad journey to an Air Force base in Dover, Delaware. There, on the eve of Easter, we will be with the families of Ron Brown and his delegation as their loved ones make a final journey home.

Ron Brown was a dear friend of mine, a friend to American businesses and American workers everywhere, who did more to create good jobs by opening new markets to our

products and services than anybody who ever held his position. He was also a friend to millions of people around the world because of his relentless determination to bridge the false divisions that keep us apart here at home and abroad.

When he became Commerce Secretary, I asked him to make that Department a powerhouse for American jobs and opportunity and an instrument for promoting peace and freedom and democracy around the world. Well, that's exactly what he did. Every minute of every day was dedicated to creating jobs for American workers and opportunities for our companies. But he was also in the Balkans to channel the energy of the American economy, once again the strongest in the world, into a powerful force for peace and renewal.

With him were dedicated Government workers from the Commerce Department and other agencies. Some of them were very young. With him were members of our United States military who were serving their country and getting the mission where it was supposed to go. And with him were some of our finest business leaders, all of them trying to help people rebuild their lives and their land so that the hard-won peace in Bosnia would grow strong and take on a life and logic of its own, overcoming the past of ethnic hatred and division. These Americans literally gave their lives bringing to others the blessings of a normal life that too often we take here for granted.

So this weekend, as you enjoy the blessings of family and community and friendship, please say a prayer for the families and friends of Ron Brown and his colleagues and for the family and friends of the good, hard-working Americans who were stolen from us in Oklahoma City one year ago and for those who survive but still have challenges to face.

Sometimes it takes a terrible tragedy to illuminate a basic truth. In a democracy, government is not ''them'' versus ''us.'' We are all ''us.'' We are all in it together.

Government is our neighbors and friends helping others pursue the dreams we all share, to live in peace, provide for ourselves and our loved ones, give our children a chance for an even better life.

So in this season of reflection and rebirth, let us follow their example and rededicate ourselves, each in our own way, to the welfare of our beloved country and our fellow citizens. That's the best way to carry on the legacy of those who give their lives in the service of our country.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 5:40 p.m. on April 5 at the University of Central Oklahoma for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on April 6.

Remarks Honoring Those Who Died in the Aircraft Tragedy in Croatia at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware

April 6, 1996

My fellow Americans, today we come to a place that has seen too many sad, silent homecomings. For this is where we in America bring home our own, those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

The 33 fine Americans we meet today, on their last journey home, ended their lives on a hard mountain a long way from home. But in a way they never left America. On their mission of peace and hope, they carried with them America's spirit, what our greatest martyr, Abraham Lincoln, called ''the last, best hope of Earth.''

Our loved ones and friends loved their country, and they loved serving their country. They believed that America, through their efforts, could help to restore a broken land, help to heal a people of their hatreds, help to bring a better tomorrow through honest work and shared enterprise. They knew what their country had given them, and they gave it back with a force, an energy, an optimism that every one of us can be proud of.

They were outstanding business leaders who gave their employees and their customers their very best. They were brave members of our military, dedicated to preserving our freedom and advancing America's cause.

There was a brilliant correspondent, committed to helping Americans better understand this complicated new world we live in. And there were public servants, some of them still in the fresh springtime of their years, who gave nothing less than everything

they had, because they believed in the nobility of public service.

And there was a noble Secretary of Commerce who never saw a mountain he couldn't climb or a river he couldn't build a bridge across.

All of them were so full of possibility. Even as we grieve for what their lives might have been, let us celebrate what their lives were, for their public achievements and their private victories of love and kindness and devotion are things that no one—no one—could do anything but treasure.

These 33 lives show us the best of America. They are a stern rebuke to the cynicism that is all too familiar today. For as family after family after family told the Vice President and Hillary and me today, their loved ones were proud of what they were doing; they believed in what they were doing; they believed in this country; they believed we could make a difference. How silly they make cynicism seem. And more important, they were a glowing testimonial to the power of individuals to improve their own lives and elevate the lives of others and make a better future for others. These 33 people loved America enough to use what is best about it in their own lives, to try to help solve a problem a long, long way from home.

At the first of this interminable week, Ron Brown came to the White House to visit with me and the Vice President and a few others. And at the end of the visit he was bubbling with enthusiasm about this mission. And he went through all the people from the Commerce Department who were going. And then he went through every single business leader that was going. And he said, ''You know, I've taken so many of these missions to advance America's economic interest and to generate jobs for Americans; these business people are going on this mission because they want to use the power of the American economy to save the peace in the Balkans.''

That is a noble thing. Nearly 5,000 miles from home, they went to help people build their own homes and roads, to turn on the lights in cities darkened by war, to restore the everyday interchange of people working and living together with something to look forward to and a dream to raise their own children by. You know, we can say a lot of things, because these people were many things to those who loved them. But I say to all of you, to every American, they were all patriots; whether soldiers or civil servants or committed citizens, they were patriots.

In their memory and in their honor, let us rededicate our lives to our country and to our fellow citizens. In their memory and in their honor, let us resolve to continue their mission of peace and healing and progress. We must not let their mission fail. And we will not let their mission fail.

The sun is going down on this day. The next time it rises it will be Easter morning, a day that marks the passage from loss and despair to hope and redemption, a day that more than any other reminds us that life is more than what we know, life is more than what we can understand, life is more than, sometimes, even we can bear. But life is also eternal. For each of these 33 of our fellow Americans and the two fine Croatians that fell with them, their day on Earth was too short, but for our country men and women we must remember that what they did while the sun was out will last with us forever.

If I may now, I would like to read the names of all of them, in honor of their lives, their service, and their families:

Staff Sergeant Gerald Aldrich
Ronald Brown
Duane Christian
Barry Conrad
Paul Cushman III
Adam Darling
Captain Ashley James Davis
Gail Dobert
Robert Donovan
Claudio Elia
Staff Sergeant Robert Farrington, Jr.
David Ford
Carol Hamilton
Kathryn Hoffman
Lee Jackson
Stephen Kaminski
Katherine Kellogg
Technical Sergeant Shelly Kelly
James Lewek
Frank Maier
Charles Meissner
William Morton
Walter Murphy
Lawrence Payne

Nathaniel Nash
Leonard Pieroni
Captain Timothy Schafer
John Scoville
I. Donald Terner
P. Stuart Tholan
Technical Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage
Naomi Warbasse
Robert Al Whittaker

Today we bring their bodies back home to America, but their souls are surely at home with God. We welcome them home. We miss them. We ask God to be with them and their families.

God bless you all, and God bless our beloved Nation. Amen.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:20 p.m. in Hangar 706 at Dover Air Force Base.

Proclamation 6879—National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, 1996

April 5, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our history, America's Armed Forces have stood proudly in defense of the United States and of freedom everywhere. Countless courageous service men and women have given their lives for our Nation, and many others have sacrificed their own freedom as prisoners of war so that the cause of liberty might prevail.

Enduring with patience and determination, prisoners of war are a powerful reminder that the indomitable spirit of the American soldier cannot be broken, even by brutal treatment in violation of international law and morality. In Nazi Germany, Japan, North Korea, Vietnam, and Iraq, prisoners of war repeatedly demonstrated their devotion to duty, honor, and country, despite the often terrible suffering inflicted upon them by their captors.

On this day and throughout the year, let us honor all who have borne the indignities of captivity in service to our country, remember the brave soldiers who died as prisoners in foreign lands during our Nation's past struggles, and recognize those at home who anxiously awaited their loved ones' return. Their faith in God, love of family, and trust in our Nation are an inspiration to all Americans, and we will always remember their sacrifices.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 9, 1996, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day. I ask all Americans to join me in honoring former American prisoners of war who suffered at the hands of our enemies, and I call upon Federal, State, and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:26 p.m., April 8, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 8, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on April 9.

Remarks at the Annual Easter Egg Roll

April 8, 1996

Where is Bernie? Is he behind me? Oh, here you go.

Well, let me say I always look forward to this every year. And the forecast today, believe it or not, was for snow. But we knew that the Easter Egg Roll wouldn't be spoiled, and just look what a wonderful day we have.

So let me say I want to join Hillary in thanking all of you who have contributed to make this Egg Roll successful. I want to thank all of you for coming and all of those who will come. This is a wonderful day for all the children who come here, and it really belongs to the children. And I love looking out and seeing all these smiling faces of par-

ents with their children. I sometimes think the parents have more fun than the children do, but it really is for the children, so all of you like me, who like this, try to restrain yourselves so that the kids can stay front and center.

It is a great honor for us to be a part of this. It is one of the things that we are really thankful for, the opportunity to live in the White House, to do, because it gives America's children a chance to come here and be a part of this. I hope you have a wonderful, wonderful day, and I think it is time to start. So I want Bernie to come up here and blow the whistle to start the Egg Roll. He has been doing this every year for a few years—[*laughter*]—and we are honored to have him again. He is as much an institution of this Egg Roll as anything else we do. So let's give him a big hand and let's begin. Bernie Fairbanks, come on.

All right, we've got one track here and one track here. And I'm going to blow the whistle, and both of you start at the same time, okay? All right, one, two, three.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

Memorandum on Cooperation With Mexico on Drug Control

April 8, 1996

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Strengthening Drug Control Cooperation with Mexico

This memorandum is to direct actions that will be taken by executive departments and agencies to improve the effectiveness of United States-Mexico drug control cooperation.

The Seriousness of the Drug Trafficking Threat to the United States and Mexico:

Drug abuse and drug trafficking pose enormous threats to the American and Mexican people. The health of our youth and the safety of our neighborhoods are at stake. The powers of our democratic institutions and of our law enforcement organizations are challenged by international criminal organizations that operate seamlessly across our borders. Multi-ton quantities of cocaine, marijuana, heroin, and now methamphetamine, find their way to American streets far from our borders, much of it having come across our common border.

A Joint United States-Mexico Commitment to Confront Drug Trafficking:

On March 1, I certified to the Congress that the Government of Mexico cooperated fully to comply with the objectives of the 1988 United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. President Zedillo and I have agreed to mount a sustained offensive against drug use, production, and trafficking organizations. We will arrest and bring drug traffickers to justice. We will make it more difficult for illegal profits to be laundered, and we will seize drug assets at every opportunity. We will work together to stop the illegal diversion of chemicals for drug manufacturing, and improve our capabilities to stop drugs at our border. To coordinate our efforts, Mexico and the United States formed a High Level Contact Group on Drug Control, which met for the first time March 27 in Mexico City. That group will continue indefinitely. It will meet next at the end of June in the United States, and thereafter in December, in Mexico.

A United States Plan of Action for Increased Cooperation With Mexico:

This directive prescribes specific measures that will be taken to accomplish these shared objectives; measures that will increase the effectiveness of the counter-drug cooperation between our two governments.

1. *Quantifying the Drug Trafficking Threat to Our Two Nations*

A prerequisite for more effective bilateral action is a shared and objective assessment of the level of drug production, trafficking activities, and the threat of corruption in both countries.

In order to establish a common view of the problem, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) will coordinate other United States Government agencies in order to work effectively with officials designated by President Zedillo to produce a white paper that comprehensively describes the threat posed by cultivation, production, and trafficking of drugs such as cocaine, her-

oin, marijuana, methamphetamine, and diversion of pharmaceuticals such as rohypnol, in both the United States and Mexico. Particular attention will be paid to drug trafficking activities across the Southwest border.

This report will be presented to the U.S.-Mexico High Level Contact Group on Drugs during its next meeting in June.

2. *Developing a Joint Drug Control Strategy*

We need a strategy to provide general guidance and specific direction to the efforts of the departments and agencies of our two countries.

I have directed the Director of National Drug Control Policy to expeditiously develop a binational drug control strategy in conjunction with the Government of Mexico. The strategy must increase the security and integrity of our shared border, while respecting the sovereign rights of each nation.

3. *Reducing the Demand for Illegal Drugs in Our Two Countries*

Prevention and treatment programs have contributed to a marked reduction in the number of drug users in the United States in the past decade. The number of casual drug users has dropped by almost half and the number of cocaine users by over a third. Mexico, likewise, has enjoyed positive results in its drug prevention programs. Both the United States and Mexico stand to benefit by sharing information on demand reduction programs that work.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy will organize multi-agency United States Government efforts to exchange expertise with appropriate organizations within the Mexican Government for information on successful reduction programs.

In the interests of enriching bilateral information exchange, U.S. agencies should take steps to ensure that the Mexican Government receives copies of relevant public reports and published studies relating to drug abuse education, trafficking patterns, money laundering, and so forth. The two governments will also work jointly to develop a protocol for exchange of more sensitive information.

4. *Assessing U.S. Counter-drug Programs Along the Southwest Border*

The increasing two-way trade between our nations must not be permitted to be used as a cover for drug trafficking.

I have directed the Departments of the Treasury, Justice, Defense, and other relevant agencies to conduct a comprehensive review of all Federal, State, and local efforts to prevent drug trafficking across the Southwest border.

This review will be coordinated by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. It will also consider bilateral measures that can be taken to decrease the flow of drugs across the Southwest border. The results of this review shall be submitted to the President's Council on Counter-Narcotics within 180 days.

5. *Attacking Methamphetamine Production and Trafficking*

Methamphetamine has become the drug of choice in California and is becoming more common across the rest of the United States. Clandestine labs in both countries produce tons of this dangerous drug. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has just developed a concept to address domestic consumption, production, and trafficking of methamphetamine.

The Department of Justice will continue to lead the U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Law Enforcement Officials to produce a binational and interagency methamphetamine strategy. The DOJ will make regular reports to the High Level Contact Group through ONDCP of the progress and plans that result from the working sessions, and will report methamphetamine accomplishments at the next meeting of the High Level Contact Group.

6. *Controlling Essential and Precursor Chemicals*

Essential and precursor chemicals for the manufacture of all types of illegal drugs must be more carefully controlled.

The Department of Justice will continue to lead the U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Law Enforcement Officials to produce a binational and interagency strategy and action plan for chemical controls not included in the methamphetamine action plan. The DOJ will make regular reports on plans and progress through ONDCP to the High Level Contact Group.

7. *Combating Money Laundering and Other Financial Crimes*

Drug trafficking organizations are profit oriented. Their illicit gains must be converted into legal instruments if the profit is to be realized. Money laundering is an essential component of the drug trafficking cycle.

Working through the U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Law Enforcement Officials, the Departments of State, Justice, and the Treasury will develop recommendations for strengthening legislation to combat drug and other serious crime-related money laundering activities in Mexico through a combination of criminal penalties, large value and suspicious transaction reporting, as well as laws providing for the seizure and forfeiture of the proceeds and instrumentalities of crime and for international cooperation in the tracing, forfeiting, and equitable sharing of such assets. In addition, the Departments that comprise the Plenary Group will produce a plan for training anti-money-laundering law enforcement specialists, and a plan to expand the exchange of information to protect the integrity of financial institutions. They will report progress and plans through ONDCP to the High Level Contract Group.

A report on progress achieved in this area will be presented to the U.S.-Mexico High Level Contract Group on Drugs during its next meeting in June.

8. *Improving Bilateral Law Enforcement Cooperation*

Bilateral U.S.-Mexican law enforcement cooperation is at an historic high. However, more can be done.

The U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Law Enforcement Officials will continue to be the principal coordinating mechanism for bilateral law enforcement cooperation. The Department of Justice will continue to lead that Group. The DOJ will make regular reports to the High Level Contact Group through ONDCP of the progress and plans that result from the working sessions, and will report law enforcement cooperation accomplishments at the next meeting of the High Level Contact Group. The basic principle to be followed is that coordination will be facilitated at the lowest possible echelons and produce measurable results.

Recommendations from the Plenary Group will also be presented to the U.S.-Mexico High Level Contract Group on Drugs during its next meeting in June.

9. *Capturing Fugitives from Justice*

The principle that no felon should be able to escape justice by using a border defines the joint U.S.-Mexico approach to fugitive issues.

The Department of Justice, operating through the U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Law Enforcement Officials will improve the mechanism for return of fugitives from one country to the other. Those mechanisms will fully respect the absolute sovereignty of each nation's laws.

The DOJ will make regular reports to the High Level Contact Group through ONDCP of the progress and plans that result from the Plenary Group sessions, and will report law enforcement cooperation accomplishments at the next meeting of the High Level Contact Group.

10. *Sharing Information and Helping Criminal Prosecution*

We must assure that criminals do not escape punishment because of an inability to investigate or produce evidence for trial.

The U.S.-Mexico Plenary Group of Senior Level Law Enforcement Officials will produce recommendations for both countries to improve access to law enforcement and prosecutorial evidence and information. The Group will report its progress at the June meeting of the High Level Contact Group.

11. *Denying Our Sovereign Territory to Drug Trafficking*

International drug trafficking organizations routinely violate the sovereign air, land, and sea space of nations. We must find ways to shield our sovereign territories from these criminal violations.

The ONDCP will coordinate an interagency effort to develop unilateral and bilateral measures to prevent drug traffickers from violating our sovereignty. Such measures must fully respect the undisputed sovereign authority of each government within its national territory. Participating departments will include Justice, State, the Treasury, and Defense. Particular attention will be paid to large shipments of illegal drugs to Mexico and the United States.

An interim report will be presented to the U.S.-Mexico High Level Contact Group on Drugs during its next meeting in June.

12. *Employing High Technology*

Mexico eradicated more drug crops than any other country in the world in 1995. The United States, likewise, has pursued a nationwide eradication effort. Technical exchanges, in such areas as use of high technology and environmental protection, will benefit the eradication programs of both countries.

The ONDCP will coordinate an interdepartmental study on these issues. The study will be conducted in conjunction with the Government of Mexico. The Departments of Defense and State, and other relevant U.S. agencies will participate in this study.

Specific recommendations will be submitted to the U.S.-Mexico High Level Contact Group on Drugs within 180 days.

13. *Summarizing Success*

The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy is directed to submit a review of the results of cooperative U.S.-Mexico efforts against drug production and trafficking to the President's Council on Counter-Narcotics, prior to December 31, 1996.

This memorandum shall be published in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:46 a.m., April 9, 1996]

NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on April 10.

Proclamation 6881—National Child Abuse Prevention Month, 1996

April 8, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America is a country of many blessings—a rich land, a thriving democracy, a diverse and determined people. Our culture is built on faith in freedom and on the spirit of community. In a Nation of such infinite promise, the continuing problem of child abuse is a national tragedy. When any American child experiences the horrors of physical or emotional abuse, the future of our Nation also suffers. We must always remember that today's children will be tomorrow's leaders, educators, and parents, and we must help them to look forward with hope and enthusiasm to the future.

My Administration is working hard to make this country a better place for all our children. Although domestic violence and child abuse are primarily matters for State and local authorities, we have taken significant steps at the Federal level to prevent the conditions that can lead to abuse. Both the National Child Protection Act of 1993 and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 contain provisions that help communities identify offenders who may pose a threat to children's well-being.

In addition, our Family Preservation and Family Support Services were designed to give parents the tools they need to keep their families intact and raise healthy, happy children. These include parenting classes, programs that send a visitor to the homes of first-time parents to provide support and guidance, and early developmental screening of children. Bipartisan support for this initiative—the first Federal investment in child welfare protection in more than a decade—has enabled States to use resources flexibly and creatively to strengthen families and work to reduce child abuse.

But government alone cannot end mistreatment. Social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, businesses, and concerned citizens are all working to help children live up to their full potential. These efforts to provide loving and protective environments for our Nation's children exemplify the finest traditions of service and compassion. This month and throughout the year, let us each do everything we can to strengthen families and ease the pain of abused children. Together, we can make an investment in the future by putting the needs of our most precious and vulnerable citizens first.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United

States, do hereby proclaim April 1996, as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities that raise awareness of the need to help our children lead happy, productive lives.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:07 a.m., April 9, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on April 10.

Remarks on Signing the Line Item Veto Act and an Exchange With Reporters

April 9, 1996

The President. Good morning. I want to welcome Senator Nickles and Congressmen Cardin, Spratt, Goss, and Solomon here; Governor Romer; Ed Lupberger, the chairman of the United States Chamber of Commerce; Marne Obernauer, the vice chairman of the American Business Conference; David Keating, the CEO of the National Taxpayers Union; Al From, from the Democratic Leadership Council; and Fred Greenstein, a distinguished Presidential historian from Princeton who has also supported the bill I am signing today.

It gives me great pleasure today to sign into law the line item veto. This is a bipartisan achievement that has been long sought by Presidents, long supported by Members of Congress and by Governors. It will help us to cut waste and to balance the budget.

For years, Presidents of both parties have pounded this very desk in frustration at having to sign necessary legislation that contained special interest boondoggles, tax loopholes, and pure pork. The line item veto will give us a chance to change that, to permit Presidents to better represent the public interest by cutting waste, protecting taxpayers, and balancing the budget.

We all know that this is needed because too often, as vital bills move through Congress, they can become clogged with items that would never pass on their own. Presidents often have no choice but to sign these bills because of their main purpose. This new law will give the President the power to cancel specific spending items and specific tax loopholes that benefit special interests. These proposals can then be debated and subject to an open vote on the floor of Congress. A fresh air of public accountability will blow through the Federal budget.

This law gives the President tools to cut wasteful spending, and even more important, it empowers our citizens, for the exercise of this veto or even the possibility of its exercise will throw a spotlight of public scrutiny onto the darkest corners of the Federal budget.

I have advocated the line item veto for a long time. When I was Governor, I used it, and it helped us to balance 12 budgets in a row. Forty-three of our 50 Governors have the line item veto. Governor Romer is with us because so many of the Nation's Governors have supported this measure for so long. The line item veto will help us to bring common sense to our Nation's Capital, just as it has to State capitals all across America.

Let me say, I am particularly pleased that this measure received support from both parties, working together for the public good. That's the way we should meet all of our challenges in America, and it's the only way we can balance the budget in the right way.

I am very proud that we have cut the deficit in half since I took office. The line item veto will help the President cut the budget deficit even further. But we have to pass a 7-year balanced budget and to do it in a way that reflects our fundamental values. The Congress and the executive branch have now identified over $700 billion of savings common to both plans. That is more than enough to balance the budget and have a modest tax cut.

So I hope that we can do what we did with the line item veto: work together and pass a good balanced budget plan. That will bring these interest rates down; it will reas-

sure the financial markets; and it will keep economic growth going in the United States.

Let me say in closing before I sign the bill that it is customary for a President to give the pens he uses to sign a bill into law to those who did the most for its passage. So I am honored today to send the very first four pens that are used here to the former Presidents who also made the line item veto their cause, President Reagan and President Ford, President Carter, President Bush. I thank them, and our country thanks them. Their successors will be able to use this power that they long sought to eliminate waste from the Federal budget, to advance our values, and protect our priorities as we move into the 21st century.

Thank you.

[*At this point, the President signed the bill.*]

Separation of Powers Doctrine

Q. Doesn't this transcend the Founding Fathers' separation of powers and give the President too much power?

The President. I don't think so. We've worked hard to—we anticipate that it will be challenged. We've worked hard to provide for a means for it to be resolved quickly. But this leaves ultimate hands in the authority of the Congress. They can take all these separate issues back and vote on them separately. And I think all of us believe that as long as that is done, that we don't violate the constitutional separation of powers doctrine.

And the constitutions of our various States are modeled pretty closely on the Federal Constitution. They all have separation of powers doctrines, and the Governors have had this authority in almost all the States and have used it well and without any upsetting of the constitutional framework.

As long as the practical impact of this is to force these matters to be considered separately, I don't think there's any question that it's not a violation of the separation of powers. Now of course, others in authority and the judicial branch will have their opportunity to say differently, but I believe it will be upheld.

Liberia

Q. Mr. President, what's the latest word you have on the situation in Liberia? And will you be forced to order Americans evacuated from Liberia?

The President. Well, let me say, first of all, since the—for the last several days we've been keeping very close watch on it. We have a number of Americans there in Monrovia, and we have put in place the pieces necessary to do everything possible to assure their safety. And we're watching it very closely. We have not made a decision from here. I'm not sure we should make a decision from here on their evacuation. We're working with the Embassy, and we're being guided in significant measure by what they know to be the facts on the ground there. But we have tried to put in place backup measures which would permit us to protect the Americans as quickly as possible, should that become necessary.

Q. Have you received any assurances on their safety?

The President. Well, we've done the best we could. You know, it's hard for anybody to assure their safety in the sense that conflict is going on in the Capital. But we believe that we've made the right decision so far with regard to their situation, and we're watching it very closely.

Line Item Veto

Q. Mr. President your critics of the line item veto have said that it will allow a President to wheel and deal with a Senator or a Congressman or a group of Senators or Congressmen, and to threaten them with this power. What could you say—not to question your integrity or whatever—what would you say to the American people that you would not, and your successors would not, abuse this power?

The President. Well, first of all, every power given to the Congress or to the President or to the courts is, I suppose, susceptible to some abuse, and we have a system of checks and balances there. My argument is, number one, there's obviously some negotiations that go on over legislation all the time now and almost always, by the way, fully reported by you and the press, whether we like it or not. [*Laughter*]

Number two, keep in mind, the protection the Members have is that if the President goes overboard and says, if you don't vote for me on some other bill, or this bill, I'm

not going to allow your project in here—if the President started doing that, and it was unrelated to the real merits of the underlying spending provision, then I believe the Congress would respond by passing these bills separately.

Keep in mind the ultimate protection the Congress has: If the President abuses his authority, the ultimate protection the Congress has is the clear ability to have these bills voted on separately and publicly. And then the President's veto gets singled out. The President could veto it, that spending bill again, too. Then the President would be ultimately held accountable by the people, through the reporting of the process in the press.

And let me also say that I found—you know, I was a Governor for quite a long time before I came here, and what I found was—and I'm sure Governor Romer could corroborate this—is that once this mechanism is in place and people understand that the Executive is prepared to use it, it becomes necessary to use it less, that its main benefit after a few years is that it exists in reserve, because it changes the whole shape of the budget negotiations and makes these bills less subject to this sort of catch-all spending.

Now, it will take some years, perhaps, for that to happen here, but we are doing this for the long run. None of us who have supported this—and I'm sure the representatives from the business groups, the taxpayers unions, and others would say the same thing—none of us have ever pretended that this was some sort of miraculous cure-all. But we believe it will put discipline into this budget, and it will really help over the long run to give the American people a kind of budgeting process they need, as well as reducing waste and helping to move the budget into balance.

Thank you.

Q. Are you sure you will be using it next year?

The President. Well, that's up to the bosses out there. But I'll tell you this, I was more than happy—the majority in the Congress wanted to wait until January to put it in, for their own reasons, and when I was asked about it, without a moment's hesitation, I said yes. That was a reasonable compromise for me.

I think this is so important that we shouldn't—if they want to take it out of the context of this year's elections and the fall's budget negotiations, I think it is so important to get into the law for the long run it was fine with me. I was very happy to do that. I don't have any problem with it. We did it. It's the right thing to do, and it's been done, and we did it together, and that's the way we ought to do more things.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:15 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Roy Romer of Colorado. S. 4, approved April 9, was assigned Public Law No. 104–130.

Statement on Signing the Line Item Veto Act

April 9, 1996

Today I am very pleased to sign into law S. 4, the Line Item Veto Act.

This new law shows what we can achieve when we put our partisan differences aside and work together for the Nation. Members of both parties have fought for this legislation because they believed that no matter which party has control of the White House or the Congress, the line item veto would be good for the country.

I have consistently supported a Presidential line item veto as a Governor, as a candidate for President in 1992, and as President the last 3 years.

Starting with Ulysses S. Grant, Presidents of both parties have sought the line item veto so they could eliminate waste in the Federal budget. Most recently, Presidents Reagan and Bush called for its passage, as did many Members of Congress.

With this authority, Presidents will have a valuable new tool to ensure that the Federal Government is spending public resources as wisely as possible. It will permit the President to cancel discretionary spending, new entitlement authority, and tax provisions that benefit special interests at the expense of the public interest.

This carefully defined authority is also a practical and principled means of serving the constitutional balance of powers. The modern congressional practice of presenting the President with omnibus legislation reduces the President's ability to play the role in enacting laws that the Constitution intended. This new authority brings us closer to the Founders' view of an effective executive role in the legislative process. The President will be able to prevent the Congress from enacting special interest provisions under the cloak of a 500- or 1,000-page bill. Special interest provisions that do not serve the national interest will no longer escape proper scrutiny.

No one, of course, believes the line item veto is a cure-all for the budget deficit. Indeed, even without the line item veto, we are already cutting the deficit in half—as I had promised to do when I ran for President. But the line item veto will provide added discipline by ensuring that as tight budgets increasingly squeeze our resources, we will put our public funds to the best possible uses.

I call on the leaders of the Congress, in the spirit of bipartisanship reflected in today's bill signing, to join me in continuing to make progress. We should move ahead by reaching an agreement to balance the budget by 2002.

Over the last several months, I have worked closely with congressional leaders to reach such an agreement. In fact, we have about $700 billion in common savings. We should finish our work this year.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 9, 1996.

NOTE: S. 4, approved April 9, was assigned Public Law No. 104–130.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Konstandinos Simitis of Greece and an Exchange With Reporters

April 9, 1996

Greece-U.S. Relations

President Clinton. Let me say it's a great honor for me to welcome Prime Minister Simitis here, along with his party. Greece has been a long and strong ally of the United States, and I'm looking forward to discussing a number of issues, including how we can be helpful in resolving some of the difficulties in the Aegean.

Let me say, first of all, that I think all these issues should be resolved without the use of force or the threat of force, with both parties agreeing to abide by international agreements and with a mutual respect for territorial integrity. With regard to the Imia question, the United States has already said we believe it should be submitted to the International Court of Justice or some other international arbitration forum.

I also want to thank Greece for its leadership in trying to resolve the problems in the future of the Balkans in a positive way. Greece is participating in IFOR and is working with the challenges presented in Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in a number of other ways.

And finally, I hope we have a chance to talk about Cyprus a little bit. This has been an area of intense interest for me since I became President, and I hope that we can do more in that area to help that situation to be resolved.

Iranian Arms Shipments to Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, are you concerned about the investigation of Iranian arms shipments to Bosnia during the war?

President Clinton. No.

Q. Did you allow it to happen?

President Clinton. Our record on that is clear. Mr. Lake has talked about it. There was absolutely nothing improper done.

Q. You know, Bob Dole supported lifting the arms embargo, and now he is talking about possible investigation of the flow of arms. What do you think is going on there, Mr. President?

President Clinton. He also took the position that we had the right to unilaterally lift it.

Q. What do you think his motives are though?

President Clinton. You all can comment on what is going on. I'm just going to try to do my job.

[*At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.*]

Greece-U.S. Relations

President Clinton. Hello. Is everyone in? Let me say, first of all, it's a great honor for me, on behalf of the United States, to welcome Prime Minister Simitis here. I have already had the opportunity to thank him for the wonderful welcome that my wife and daughter received from the government and from the people of Greece recently. We have a number of things to discuss. I hope the United States can be helpful in resolving some of the problems in the Aegean.

At the outset, let me say, we believe that all these issues should be solved without the use of force, without the threat of force, with everyone agreeing to abide by international agreements and to respect the territorial integrity of other countries.

With regard to the Imia situation, the United States has long said that we favor the resolution by referring the matter to the International Court of Justice or some other international arbitration panel, and we feel very strongly that these things have to be resolved.

I want to have an opportunity to thank the Prime Minister for the leadership that Greece has shown in resolving problems in the Balkans, involving Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and participating in IFOR in Bosnia. And I think that the future of the Balkans as a secure and peaceful and, hopefully, more democratic place requires the leadership of Greece. And so I'm looking forward to that.

And finally, I hope we have a chance to talk a little bit about Cyprus. Cyprus has been an area of special interest to me since I became President. I spent an awful lot of personal time on it, and we intend to explore this year whether there is something else we can do to help resolve that matter, because I believe that if that could be resolved, then that would open the way for a whole new future for the region and great new possibilities for all of its people.

Greece-Turkey Relations

Q. Mr. President, can you tell us what role the U.S. would play in Greek-Turkish relations, and what is the U.S. position on the sovereignty issue of the Imia islet?

President Clinton. Well, I just said I think it ought to be decided by the International Court of Justice. I think the United States—since we have been—this is a delicate thing. We hardly have had a longer and stronger ally than Greece in the United States, and we have had—we obviously have worked with the Turks and have had good relationships with them. And the differences between Greece and Turkey are a source of great concern to us.

But we believe they can be worked out if there is adherence to international agreements, nobody uses force or threatens to use force, and there is a genuine respect for territorial integrity and an understanding that if you look—if you try to imagine what the future will look like 10, 15, 20 years from now, and what the probable challenges to the freedom and the prosperity of the people of Greece are, and the people of the United States, from around the world, obviously, that future would be much more secure if the differences between Greece and Turkey could be resolved.

Q. [*Inaudible*]—and what did he say?

President Clinton. I said the same thing to him I'm saying to you. I find in this world, you know, since we have a global press, you have to say the same thing to everyone. [*Laughter*] So I said exactly the same thing to him I said to you.

Greece-U.S. Relations

Q. Do you see a specific role of Greece in the Balkans?

Prime Minister Simitis. Can I say a few words?

President Clinton. Sure, it's your press.

Prime Minister Simitis. It's very important for us to be here and to discuss matters of common interest with President Clinton. Greece aims on the one hand to improve the bilateral relations with the United States; on the other hand, we want to promote stability, peace, and prosperity in our part of the world, the European Union, the Balkans, and the Eastern Mediterranean. In order to achieve these targets, we want to discuss matters as European integration, cooperation with Balkan countries, our relations with our neighbors in Turkey, and the Cyprus issue.

As far as the relations with our neighbors are concerned, we think that certain principles must be applied. The first principle is that no one can use force or use the threat of force. The international treaties and international law must be applied. And finally, the resolution of disputes must be realized with the help of the International Court of Justice.

I hope that with these discussions, and I'm sure—there will be progress in these matters, and we will have in this part of the world a new development that is positive for stability and peace.

Q. Sir, is there a specific initiative that you will undertake to de-escalate tension?

President Clinton. I have already told you what my position is. I want to have a chance to meet with the Prime Minister, and we will be talking more later.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:12 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Signing Legislation Waiving Certain Enrollment Requirements

April 9, 1996

Today I have signed into law H.J. Res. 168, which waives the printing requirements of sections 106 and 107 of title 1 of the United States Code with respect to H.R. 3019 and H.R. 3136. I do so to avoid any confusion as to my ability to act on any form of that legislation presented to me after certification by the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives that the form is a true enrollment. In signing the resolution, I express no view as to whether it is necessary to waive the provisions of title 1 before I exercise my prerogatives under Article I, section 7, of the Constitution where the Congress has presented to me any form of bill it considers to be a true enrollment.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 9, 1996.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 168, approved April 9, was assigned Public Law No. 104–129.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on the Intelligence Community Budget

April 9, 1996

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with section 311(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, I transmit herewith the Report on Executive Branch Oversight of the Intelligence Community Budget. This report describes actions taken: (1) to improve budget formulation and execution for national intelligence agencies, (2) to establish more effective financial management throughout the intelligence community, with particular emphasis on the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), and (3) to reduce the forward funding balances of the NRO.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Larry Combest, chairman, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and Arlen Specter, chairman, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Remarks at the Funeral of Secretary of Commerce Ronald H. Brown

April 10, 1996

Ladies and gentlemen, fellow Americans, citizens of the world who have come here; to Alma and Tracey and Michael and Tammy; to Chip and to Ron's mother and to the other members of the family who are here: This has been a long week for all of us who loved Ron Brown, cared for his work, cherished the brilliant young people who worked with him, honored the business executives who took the mission of peace to Bosnia, and the members of our United States military who were taking them on that mission.

But this has been the longest week for the Brown family. You have grieved and wept. You have comforted others whose loved ones were lost. You have remembered and smiled, and last evening you got to celebrate and laugh at the life that you shared, each in your own way, with Ron.

I begin by saying to all of you, on behalf of all of us, we thank you for the strength you have given to others even as you have borne your own grief, for we can see Ron in your eyes and hear him in your voices and feel his strength in yours. Indeed, I was confident as I heard Michael speak that from heaven Ron had written the words. So today and in all of our tomorrows, as we remember and love him, we will remember and love you.

We hope on this day amidst all the grief you will also feel gratitude for his magnificent life, determination to carry on his legacy and keep it alive, and the peace of God which takes us to a place beyond all our understanding.

The Bible tells us, ''though we weep through the night, joy will come in the morning.'' Ron Brown's incredible life force brought us all joy in the morning. No dark night could ever defeat him. And as we remember him, may we always be able to recover his joy. For this man loved life and all the things in it. He loved the big things: his family, his friends, his country, his work, his African-American heritage. He loved the difference he was making in the world, this new and exciting world after the cold war.

And he loved life's little things: the Redskins and basketball and golf, even when it was bad, and McDonald's and clothes. And I'm telling you, folks, he would have loved this deal today. I mean, here we are for Ron Brown in the National Cathedral with full military honors, filled with the distinguished citizenry of this country and leaders from around the world in a tribute to him. And as I look around I see that all of us are dressed almost as well as he would be today. [*Laughter*]

But let us remember also that he loved success, but not so much he wanted to succeed at the wrong things or in the wrong way. And he always remembered that worldly success doesn't take us too very far from all the rest of our fellow human beings who don't enjoy as much of it. That accounts for why he was always so kind to people without regard to their station in life.

Ron Brown enjoyed a lot of success. He proved you could do well and do good. He also proved you could do good and have a good time. And he also proved that you could do all that and, at the same time, still take time to help other people.

With his passion and determination, his loves and his joys, his going beyond the stereotypes of his time, he lived a truly American life. He lived his life for America, and when the time came, he was found laying down his life for America.

What a life it was. With his remarkable enthusiasm that infected everything he did. As long as I live I will remember the time Ron Brown and I were walking the streets of the neighborhood in Los Angeles, and we went to this sporting goods store that had been owned by some people who were trying to help young folks stay out of gangs. And in the back of the sporting goods store, there was a basketball court.

And all these little kids had gathered around and they asked Ron, and they asked me if we would like to play basketball. So we divided up sides. He took a few kids. I took a few kids. All of a sudden he forgot who was President and how he got his day job. [*Laughter*] He was totally caught up in the drama of the game. This was an important trip we took, but afterward, whenever anyone asked him about that trip, all he could remember to say was, ''The President was in my face from 20 feet out, but when I shot, nothing but net.'' [*Laughter*]

Ron Brown was very clever. Even as a young boy at the Hotel Teresa, ''Little Brown,'' as Joe Louis called him, was always trying to think of what else could be done. He met all kinds of celebrities, as has been widely chronicled, men like Louis Armstrong and Sugar Ray Robinson and women like Lena Horne and Dinah Washington. And he did what most kids do, even today, he got their autographs. But unlike most kids, he sold them to his friends. [*Laughter*] According to Michael, he sold two to a page, five bucks a pop, until Joe Louis found out and shut down his act. [*Laughter*] But it was too late. He was well on his way to becoming the Secretary of Commerce. [*Laughter*]

He was daring. We all know that. He was daring when he announced he wanted to be the chairman of the Democratic Party, after we had lost three Presidential elections. And no one thought he had a chance to win. Then

when he won, he announced that in 1992 the world's oldest political party would win the White House again. And nobody thought he was right, including the Governor of a small Southern State. [*Laughter*] But as with so many other things, he was right, and the rest of us were wrong.

On a personal note, I want to say to my friend just one last time. Thank you. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't be here.

Ron Brown was a true leader, and he knew that in his mind that meant you could never show doubt, even if you had to kind of make it up as you went along. I later learned this story about his acceptance of the job I offered him. I sent for Ron. He came to see me, and I said, ''You know, this is a big, new world out there, and you ought to be Secretary of Commerce. You could change the future of America and millions of other people around the world. You could make a real difference.'' And he said, ''That sounds good. I want to think about it.''

I later learned that he walked out and went to see our mutual friend, Harold Ickes, and said, ''Harold, what does the Secretary of Commerce do?'' [*Laughter*] By the time he arrived, he knew. He knew better than anyone else. He came on like a force of nature.

Yesterday I received a letter from one of the many business executives that Ron Brown helped to open new markets around the world. He's on our Export Council, and he said in this letter, ''You know, Mr. President, Ron Brown really is the finest Secretary of Commerce the United States ever had.''

He also remembered what it was he was leaning toward. Ron Brown made his staff memorize a one-sentence mission statement about their job at Commerce. Here it is: The mission of the Department of Commerce is to ensure economic opportunity for every American.

That was Ron. He wanted to give other people a chance to live a good life and live the American dream. He wanted to do it in a way that helped people around the world to lift their aspirations. He went after it with everything he had. He used to say to me, ''If what we have to do means getting the government out of the way, let's lead the charge. And if what we have to do means working together to find some new solution, let's lead the charge. But let's get it done. Let's fulfill the mission.''

He also never forgot that there are always some people who are left behind. I want to tell you this story because to me it captures so much the essence of what made him very special. When we first came into office we only had about a month to put our first budget together. And we knew we had to do some pretty tough things to get the deficit way down. Day after day, the Cabinet would gather in the Roosevelt Room; Ron was always there.

And on one of those days, we talked about the need not only to cut the budget but to do some really symbolic things that would show the American people we were different and we stood for the right things. And we were all, frankly, being just a little sanctimonious in looking for symbolic gestures.

And so we were talking about the need to cut the perks that had previously been provided to top officials, things like chefs in the Secretary's dining room and chauffeurs for a lot of higher ranking officials. And we talked about them, frankly, all of us, nonchalantly and fairly sanctimoniously, until Ron turned to me and said, ''You know, these cuts are the right thing to do, Mr. President. It is the right thing to do. But I'd just like to remind people that there are real human beings in those jobs as chefs and chauffeurs. A lot of those folks are my age. Many are black men. Most of them never had the opportunities you and I did. So let's go on and do the right things and make the cuts. But let's not forget about those people, and let's try to help them go on with their lives in dignity.''

No one else said that but Ron Brown. He could see where we had to go. He knew it was the right thing to do. But he had enough peripheral vision to know how other people were being affected.

That last thing I'd like to say about his remarkable public life is that while he was often determined to be first, he was equally determined that he would never be the last. And so he exerted more extraordinary effort than virtually anybody I've ever known to develop the talents of other people, to reach out to the young, to give them a chance to serve. How much of the weeping we have done this

last week because there were so many brilliant, young people on that plane with him from different backgrounds and different racial groups. Why? Because Ron Brown could see in them the promise of a new tomorrow, and he knew they needed someone to reach down and give them the opportunity to serve.

And I hope that is something that none of us will ever forget. For his legacy burns brightly, not only in the lives of his wife and children and other family members but also all of those brilliant young men and women, many of whom are with us today, who walk through the doors that he opened and crossed over the bridges that he built.

I received a lot of letters and calls, like many of you have, since Ron died. I got this letter from Michael Armstrong, the chairman of Hughes Electronics, who was one of the people Ron worked with. And I wanted to read this to you, because so often we think Government operates in a vacuum. Listen to this:

''While the demands of business, the pressures of the Commerce Department, and the politics of Washington can often mask the spirit and character of the dedicated people who try so hard to make a difference for America, the business at hand, the pressures on the Department, and the politics of the moment never dimmed the smile, the energy, the commitment, and the leadership of the man who made such a big difference in the direction and destiny of our country. He led his party to the Presidency. He led the Commerce Department with imagination and distinction. He led American business to new global opportunity. He led his race as an unassuming, but forceful role model. He led us all in being what he believed in. He was truly a leader.''

Ron Brown: a trailblazer, a builder, a patriot; a husband, a father, a wonderful friend, and a great American.

Let us remember these things about Ron. Let us always have our joy in the morning. Let us be determined to carry on his legacy. Let us always be vigilant, as he was, in fighting against any shred of racism and prejudice. Let us always be vigilant, as he was, in remembering that we cannot lift ourselves up by tearing other people down, that we have to go forward together. Let us always remember, as he did, that Alexis de Tocqueville was right when he said so many years ago, America is great because America is good. He knew we had to keep working and striving to be better.

In his last sermon from the pulpit, Martin Luther King asked God to grant us all a chance to be participants in the newness and magnificent development of America. That is the cause for which Ron Brown gave his life and the cause for which he gave up his life.

In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul said, ''Let us not grow weary in doing good. For in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.'' Our friend never grew weary; he never lost heart. He did so much good, and he is now reaping his reward. He left us sooner than we wanted him to leave, but what a legacy of love and life he left behind.

Now he's in a place where he doesn't even have to worry about how good he looks. He always will look good. He's in a place where there's always joy in the morning. He's in a place where every good quality he ever had has been rendered perfect. He's in a place he deserves to be because of the way he lived and what he left to those of us who loved him.

Let there always be joy in the morning for Ron Brown. Amen.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:43 p.m. in the sanctuary at the National Cathedral.

Remarks on Returning Without Approval to the House of Representatives Partial Birth Abortion Legislation

April 10, 1996

The President. Good afternoon, I have just met with five courageous women and their families, and I want to thank the Lines, the Stellas, the Watts, the Costellos, and the Ades all for meeting with me. They had to make a potentially life-saving, certainly health-saving, but still tragic decision to have the kind of abortion procedure that would be banned by H.R. 1833.

They represent a small but extremely vulnerable group of women and families in this country, just a few hundred a year. Believe

it or not, they represent different religious faiths, different political parties, different views on the question of abortion. They just have one thing in common: They all desperately wanted their children. They didn't want abortions. They made agonizing decisions only when it became clear that their babies would not survive, their own lives, their health, and in some cases, their capacity to have children in the future were in danger.

No one can tell the story better than them, and I want to call on one of them. But before I do, I want to say that this country is deeply indebted to them for being willing to speak out and to talk about the real facts, not the emotional arguments that, unfortunately, carried the day on this case.

So I'd like to ask Mary-Dorothy Line to come up here and introduce herself and say whatever she'd like to say about why we're all here today.

[*Mary-Dorothy Line described the circumstances and complications of her pregnancy which made the procedure medically necessary. Mrs. Line remarked that she was grateful that option was available to them. She voiced her hope that the same thing would not happen to anyone else, and concluded by saying that the option is available to those that need it, thanks to the President, who understood that this was not an issue about abortion but about women's health.*]

The President. Thank you.

I'd like to ask Coreen Costello to come up and speak a little bit about her experience.

[*Mrs. Costello described the circumstances and complications of her pregnancy which made the procedure medically necessary. She concluded by saying that it is not about a choice, but that this is a medical issue, and that she's grateful that the President listened to their story.*]

The President. Thank you.

I would also like to thank Jim and their children, and William.

Would you tell them what you told me in the office? Can you do it? This is Tammy Watts.

[*Tammy Watts said that her story was not so different from everyone else's. She said she's grateful that her doctors were able to perform this very safe medical procedure that saved her health and her family.*]

The President. Thank you, Mitchell—and those are the prints of your baby, right?

[*Ms. Watts showed the President the hand and footprints of her daughter.*]

The President. Vikki, do you want to say anything?

[*Mrs. Stella described the circumstances and complications of her pregnancy which made the procedure medically necessary.*]

The President. Thank you. And you have a baby here.

Mrs. Stella: Yes, I have a little boy here.

The President. You have a 3-month-old little boy here.

Mrs. Stella: Nicholas.

The President. Claudia, would you like to talk?

[*Claudia Ades described the circumstances and complications of her pregnancy which made the procedure medically necessary*]

The President. Thank you very much.

Thank you. Thank you, Richard. Thank you, Mitchell.

Ladies and gentlemen, I asked these families to come here today to make a point that I think every American needs to understand about this bill. This is not about the pro-choice/pro-life debate. This is not a bill that ever should have been injected into that.

This terrible problem affects a few hundred Americans every year who desperately want their children, are trying to build families, and are trying to strengthen their families. And they should not become pawns in a larger debate, even though it is a serious and legitimate debate of profound significance.

I hope that we can continue to reduce the number of abortions in America. When I was Governor I signed a bill to restrict late-term abortions, consistent with the Supreme Court decision of *Roe* v. *Wade*, only cases where the life or health of the mother is at risk. When I asked the supporters of the bill here to try to take account of this, they said, well, if we have a health exception you know you could—the doctor and the mother could say anything—they can't fit in their prom

dress, that's a health exception—some terrible things like that.

And I said, no, no, no, I will accept language that says serious, adverse health consequences to the mother. Those three words. Everyone in the world will know what we're talking about. We're talking about these families. I implored them. I said, if you want to pass something on this procedure, let's make an exception for life and serious adverse health consequences so that we don't put these women in a position and these families in a position where they will lose all possibility of future child-bearing, or where the doctor can't say that they might die, but they could clearly be substantially injured forever.

And my pleas fell on deaf ears. The emotional power of the description of the procedure—which I might add did not cover the procedure these women had and did not cover all the procedures banned by the law—but the emotional power was so great that my plea just to take a decent account of these hundreds of families every year that are in this position fell on deaf ears. And, therefore, I had no choice but to veto the bill. I vetoed it just a few minutes ago before I met with these families.

I will say again, if the Congress really wants to act out of a sincere concern that some of these things are done, which are wrong, in casual ways, then if they will meet my standards to protect these families, they could pass a bill that I would sign tomorrow. But these people have no business being made into political pawns.

As I said, and as they said, they never had a choice. This affects staunchly pro-life families as well as people that are pro-choice. They never had a choice. And I cannot in good conscience see their lives damaged and their potential to build good, strong families damaged.

We need more families in America like these folks. We need more parents in America like these folks. They are what America needs more of. And just because they happen to be in a tiny minority to bear a unique burden that God imposes on just a few people every year, we can't forget our obligation to protect their lives, their children, and their families' future.

That is what this veto is all about. And let me say again how profoundly grateful I am to them for coming here today and having the courage to tell their stories to the American people.

Thank you. Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:22 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Message to the House of Representatives Returning Without Approval Partial Birth Abortion Legislation

April 10, 1996

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 1833, which would prohibit doctors from performing a certain kind of abortion. I do so because the bill does not allow women to protect themselves from serious threats to their health. By refusing to permit women, in reliance on their doctors' best medical judgment, to use this procedure when their lives are threatened *or* when their health is put in serious jeopardy, the Congress has fashioned a bill that is consistent neither with the Constitution nor with sound public policy.

I have always believed that the decision to have an abortion generally should be between a woman, her doctor, her conscience, and her God. I support the decision in *Roe* v. *Wade* protecting a woman's right to choose, and I believe that the abortions protected by that decision should be safe and rare. Consistent with that decision, I have long opposed late-term abortions except where necessary to protect the life or health of the mother. In fact, as Governor of Arkansas, I signed into law a bill that barred third trimester abortions, with an appropriate exception for life or health.

The procedure described in H.R. 1833 has troubled me deeply, as it has many people. I cannot support use of that procedure on an elective basis, where the abortion is being performed for non-health related reasons and there are equally safe medical procedures available.

There are, however, rare and tragic situations that can occur in a woman's pregnancy in which, in a doctor's medical judgment, the

use of this procedure may be necessary to save a woman's life or to protect her against serious injury to her health. In these situations, in which a woman and her family must make an awful choice, the Constitution requires, as it should, that the ability to choose this procedure be protected.

In the past several months, I have heard from women who desperately wanted to have their babies, who were devastated to learn that their babies had fatal conditions and would not live, who wanted anything other than an abortion, but who were advised by their doctors that this procedure was their best chance to avert the risk of death or grave harm which, in some cases, would have included an inability to ever bear children again. For these women, this was not about choice—not about deciding against having a child. These babies were certain to perish before, during or shortly after birth, and the only question was how much grave damage was going to be done to the woman.

I cannot sign H.R. 1833, as passed, because it fails to protect women in such dire circumstances—because by treating doctors who perform the procedure in these tragic cases as criminals, the bill poses a danger of serious harm to women. This bill, in curtailing the ability of women and their doctors to choose the procedure for sound medical reasons, violates the constitutional command that any law regulating abortion protect both the life and the health of the woman. The bill's overbroad criminal prohibition risks that women will suffer serious injury.

That is why I implored Congress to add an exemption for the small number of compelling cases where selection of the procedure, in the medical judgment of the attending physician, was necessary to preserve the life of the woman or avert serious adverse consequences to her health. The life exception in the current bill only covers cases where the doctor believes that the woman will die. It fails to cover cases where, absent the procedure, serious physical harm, often including losing the ability to have more children, is very likely to occur. I told Congress that I would sign H.R. 1833 if it were amended to add an exception for serious health consequences. A bill amended in this way would strike a proper balance, remedying the constitutional and human defect of H.R. 1833. If such a bill were presented to me, I would sign it now.

I understand the desire to eliminate the use of a procedure that appears inhumane. But to eliminate it without taking into consideration the rare and tragic circumstances in which its use may be necessary would be even more inhumane.

The Congress chose not to adopt the sensible and constitutionally appropriate proposal I made, instead leaving women unprotected against serious health risks. As a result of this Congressional indifference to women's health, I cannot, in good conscience and consistent with my responsibility to uphold the law, sign this legislation.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 10, 1996.

Letter to Joseph Cardinal Bernardin on Partial Birth Abortion Legislation

April 10, 1996

Dear Cardinal Bernardin:

I want to thank you for your letter on H.R. 1833. I appreciate and considered the strong moral convictions you expressed.

This is a difficult and disturbing issue, one which I have studied and prayed about for many months. I am against late-term abortions and have long opposed them, except where necessary to protect the life or health of the mother. As Governor of Arkansas, I signed into law a bill that barred third trimester abortions, with an appropriate exception for life or health, and I would sign such a bill now if it were presented to me.

Indeed, when I first heard the procedure referred to in H.R. 1833 described, I thought I would support the bill. But as I studied the matter and learned more about it, I came to understand that this is a rarely used procedure, justifiable as a last resort when doctors judge it necessary to save a woman's life or to avert serious health consequences to her.

In the past months, I have learned of several cases of women who desperately wanted to have their babies, who were devastated to learn that their babies had fatal conditions and would not live, who wanted anything

other than an abortion, but who were advised by their doctors that this procedure was their best chance to avert the risk of death or grave harm which, in some cases, would have included an inability to ever bear children again. For these women, this was not about choice. This was not about having a headache or fitting into a prom dress, as some have regrettably suggested. This was not about choosing against having a child. These babies were certain to perish before, during or shortly after birth. The only question was how much grave damage was going to be done to the woman.

In short, I do not support the use of this procedure on an elective basis where it is not necessary to save the life of the woman or prevent serious risks to her health.

That is why I implored Congress to add a limited exemption for the small number of compelling cases where use of the procedure is necessary to avoid serious health consequences. The life exception in the current bill fails to cover cases where the doctor believes not that the mother's death is probable, but rather that, without the procedure, serious physical harm, often including losing the ability to have more children, is very likely to occur. I want to say again that if Congress will amend the bill as I have suggested, remedying its constitutional and human defect, I will sign the bill.

Again, I thank you for your concern. These are painful and sobering issues. I understand your desire to eliminate the use of a procedure you see as inhumane. But to eliminate it without taking into consideration the rare and tragic circumstances in which its use may be necessary would be, in my judgment, even more inhumane.

Although I know you disagree with me on this matter, I hope we can continue our dialogue and continue to work together on the broad array of issues on which we do agree. I need your help and your insight.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: The letter was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 10, but was not issued as a White House press release.

Proclamation 6882—National D.A.R.E. Day, 1996

April 10, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Drug abuse and violence pose serious threats to the health and well-being of American youth. We must redouble our efforts to help children understand the consequences of destructive behaviors and give them the tools they need to succeed. This critical endeavor requires all of us—government, law enforcement, schools, religious communities, and families—to work together.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) is a proven means of communicating a strong anti-drug, anti-violence message to students of all ages. This year, D.A.R.E. will provide 33 million young people, from kindergartners to 12th graders, with information and strategies to help them resist peer pressure and to avoid drugs, tobacco, inhalants, and alcohol abuse throughout their lives. Reaching children in 30 countries, all 50 States, and 70 percent of our Nation's school districts, D.A.R.E. also empowers students with vital conflict resolution and anger management skills.

Today and throughout the year, let us recognize this program as a model of effective, grassroots organization and commend D.A.R.E. officers for their dedicated efforts to promote health and safety. As an integral and valued part of countless American schools, these caring men and women are joining parents, teachers, and concerned citizens everywhere to help children lead safe, healthy, productive lives.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 11, 1996, as National D.A.R.E. Day. I call upon families, educators, and all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate activities and programs.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-

six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., April 12, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on April 15.

Remarks Announcing the "Retirement Savings and Security Act"

April 11, 1996

Thank you very much. Thank you, Sean and Secretary Rubin. Secretary Bentsen, it's nice to have you back in the Rose Garden; to all the business people here; the representatives of working people who are here; and to all the members of the administration who are here who worked on this project—I thank not only those who are here on the platform with me but those who are in the audience, especially Marty Slate at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

This is a very important day today. There are an awful lot of small business owners, like Sean, who are trying to do well not only for their companies but by their employees. We want to help them to give retirement opportunity and security to their workers. There are an awful lot of working people out there today who are afraid that if anything happens to the job they're in now, that they'll also lose the opportunity for a secure retirement. And we want them and their families to have the opportunity of that security when they're out there working hard and doing the best they can.

I have said many times that we are living in an age of remarkable possibility where more Americans than ever before will have the opportunity to live out their dreams. But we also have significant challenges, and one of those great challenges is to help in this incredibly dynamic economy, so dominated by rapid changes of information and technology, so subject to global markets, which is basically a positive thing—I was so happy to hear Sean say that the product that his company makes might be used to install on mass transportation to protect people from terrorist attacks. That alone would be one of the most significant advances we've seen in this country in many years.

But we have to find a way to keep the dynamism of this global economy going and still allow people who are working in it in good faith to achieve a measure of security for themselves, their families, and their children.

This problem is similar to the problems that people faced a century ago when our grandparents moved from the farm to the factory and from the country to the city. There were vast new opportunities; but also so much disruption there was a lot of insecurity. And over time, our country found ways to build mechanisms of security and stability into the lives of working families, which enabled our economy to continue to grow into the world's strongest but enabled all Americans who are working to benefit from it and to stabilize their lives, their family's lives, and in the process, their community's lives.

That is the challenge we face today. When I took office, the economy was drifting; unemployment was high; the few new jobs we were getting were in lower wage industries overwhelmingly; the deficit was skyrocketing. Our economic team that is here with me today determined that we would do something about that. We had two central commitments: first, that we had to cut the deficit in half over 4 years, and second, that if we did it right and we got interest rates down, we continued to invest in education and technology and to aggressively open markets for American products, we could also see 8 million new jobs coming into our economy.

Well, those promises have been kept. That deficit will be cut by more than 50 percent by the end of this fiscal year, and we already have 8.5 million new jobs in this economy. And I am proud of that. To give you some idea of the dimensions of that achievement, of the Big Seven economies in the G–7, America's 8.5 million new jobs are more than 8 million more than the combined new job totals of the other six countries in this very competitive global economy.

Nonetheless, we see the paradox of the moment because, day after day after day, we read about how people feel uncertain and

insecure in a new world in which America's unemployment rate today is a full point lower than the average unemployment rate of the last 25 years. And that is because of all the dynamism and the new rules of the economy.

So the challenge now is: How do we keep the dynamism going? How do we keep the new jobs coming in? How do we keep the deficit coming down until we balance the budget, and still provide those mechanisms which will allow our people in this new age to do what we had to figure out how to do 100 years ago: to take advantage of all these new opportunities but to still be able to compose a good life for themselves and their families, their children, and their communities.

It is clear that there are at least three things we have to do. Working families have to have lifetime access to education and training, lifetime access to affordable health care, and they have to have the ability to build a pension throughout a lifetime no matter where they work or whether they change jobs.

So we have proposed a ''GI bill'' for America's workers so that, if whenever people lose their jobs, they can immediately get a voucher that will cover their training costs for up to 2 years. We have proposed to make the cost of college tuition tax deductible. I have called on the Congress to pass the Kassebaum-Kennedy bill, which is an important first step in guaranteeing access to affordable health care. The bill says you can't lose your health insurance when you change jobs or if someone in your family gets sick. And I hope and pray that that bill will be coming to my desk in the fairly near future.

Today I am urging Congress to pass this legislation we are proposing on retirement security so that people can build retirement throughout their careers.

As Secretary Bentsen said, in the last 3 years we have done a lot to protect American pensions and to expand opportunities to save for retirement. But there is so much more we have to do. Millions of Americans are not saving enough for their retirement. Often they have no choice. They either have a job where there's no retirement plan, or they have to change jobs. They aren't eligible for savings plans. Their employer doesn't offer the pension plan, or sometimes, even if they had one, the employer goes out of business before a plan can vest.

All these people may work as hard as they can. They may be doing all the right things. But they still have to worry about what will happen when their work is done, and they don't have the options that Secretary Rubin talked about, to put their savings into a retirement account that could be withdrawn from, tax-free, if there's a family emergency, if it's necessary for the health of a parent or the health of a child, or if they want to buy a first home or finance a child's education.

So all these things are, I think, a part of why we can have good economic news and still have good Americans working hard, feeling uncertain about their future. That is what we're here to do today, to try to respond to that challenge.

I have proposed legislation to help these hard-working Americans. We call it the ''Retirement Savings and Security Act.'' It expands coverage to help 51 million working Americans who are not now covered by an employer-provided retirement plan. Very importantly, it increases portability, so workers can take their retirement savings with them and keep saving if they change jobs or lose their job and have to wait a time to find a new job. This also enhances security so that retirement savings will be there when a worker retires.

With the ''Retirement Savings and Security Act,'' we can help to make retirement something Americans can look forward to, not dread. Where their hard-working retirement earnings are concerned, we can give Americans peace of mind. First, we ought to make it easier for small businesses like Sean's—I might say, his is growing rather rapidly; Secretary Bentsen said he had 11 employees, Sean said, ''No, 13''—[*laughter*]—and next month there will be a couple more. We ought to make it easier for them and, indeed, for all employers to provide pensions or other retirement plans.

Right now, three-quarters of the workers in large businesses have employer-provided pensions, compared to only one-quarter of workers in small businesses. So we would establish a new kind of 401K plan for employees of small businesses. They could expand

coverage with this provision alone by up to 10 million working Americans.

Second, we should expand IRA's. We want to double income eligibility so that 20 million more Americans earning up to $100,000 a year can take this tax deduction. This would, first, raise the savings rate in America and, second, make it possible for other family emergencies or needs to be met, for our plan would allow IRA withdrawals for education and training, first-time home purchases, major medical expenses, or during long-term unemployment.

Third, we have to make these pensions portable. This could help more than 5 million workers every single year. It means workers in new jobs will not have to wait to start saving in an employer pension plan. And we can start at home. We will start by allowing Federal workers to save from the first day on the job. People would be able to keep saving through a 401K plan even as they move from job to job. We will further ensure that veterans who serve their country will not risk an interruption in their pension coverage. And it will guarantee coverage and benefits for more union workers who change jobs often, like those in the construction industries.

Fourth, we must continue to enhance pension security. We build on what we have done to help secure pensions through tighter enforcement. Most employers do play by the rules, but we must ensure that no employer can easily skim from their employees' contributions. Our plan cracks down on fraud, requires broader audits, and protects workers like those whose pensions were threatened in the Orange County bankruptcy.

Finally, we should not go backward. As Secretary Rubin said, in the budget plan that I vetoed, Congress permitted $20 billion to be taken out of pension plans affecting—excuse me—in the 1980's, companies took $20 billion out of pension plans that affected something like 2½ million American workers. And in 1994 when I signed the legislation that Secretary Rubin and Secretary Bentsen referred to, we were at that time looking at the possibility that 8½ million more American workers could lose their pensions. So the '94 legislation clearly saved the pensions of 8½ million American workers and stabilized those of 40 million others.

Now, when the budget passed, part of it was giving a green light to corporations to take $15 billion more out of pension plans. One of the reasons I vetoed that budget—one of several—was that I do not believe, after all the horrible experience of the eighties, and after what we went so far to do in a bipartisan fashion in 1994 to stabilize the pension funds of the country, that we ought to turn around and repeat the mistakes of the past. Our first rule ought to be to do no harm in an age of opportunity and uncertainty.

Now I want to call on the Congress to help us move forward. In many of the things that I have proposed today, there is very broad bipartisan support—broad bipartisan support for making the 401K plans more readily available; broad bipartisan support for an expanded IRA. We have to do the portability piece of this. We have to do it. We have to create an environment where ordinary working Americans can look forward to a future with excitement. They'll say, ''Hey, well, maybe I'll have to do more jobs than my parents and grandparents did, but I'll always be able to get education and training. I'll always be able to afford health care and have access to it. I'll always be able to have a retirement plan for my later years. My family is going to be all right in this new world.''

That is what this legislation is all about. That's what retirement savings and security means. I hope the Congress will join with us. I hope we can pass all the elements of this plan, and we ought to be able to do it fairly quickly because I do not believe there is a partisan issue here. This is something we can and should do for America, and we ought to do it now.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:23 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Sean Macell, president and chief executive officer, Prima Facia, Inc., Conshohocken, PA.

Proclamation 6883—National Pay Inequity Awareness Day, 1996

April 11, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

More than three decades after the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, women and people of color continue to suffer the consequences of unfair pay differentials. In comparing median weekly earnings, last year American women earned only 75 cents for every dollar a man brought home, with African American women and Hispanic women collecting just 66 cents and 57 cents, respectively. Significant wage gaps exist for African American and Hispanic men, Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans as well.

April 11 is the day on which American women's wages for 1996, when added to their entire 1995 earnings, finally equal what men earned in 1995 alone. Unfair pay practices exist at all education levels and in every occupation. Last year, women physicians and lawyers earned substantially less than their male counterparts. The problem is particularly acute in female-dominated professions and in jobs where minority groups are disproportionately represented. Though changing technologies and a growing demand for services have made their positions increasingly vital, America's child care providers, secretaries, textile workers, telephone operators, social workers, and maintenance people are among those who bear the greatest wage discrepancies.

Ensuring fair pay is an essential part of helping women and their families become and remain self-sufficient. According to 1993 data, the vast majority of households depend on the wages of a working mother, and 12 percent of all families are supported by a woman working as the single head of household. Studies show that salary inequities often force women to turn to public assistance to keep a roof over their children's heads and food on the table.

Fair pay equity policies can be implemented simply and without incurring undue costs. Twenty States have already established programs aimed at increasing the wages of employees in female-dominated jobs, and many private sector businesses have implemented voluntary policies. These employers understand that fair pay is an invaluable human resource management tool that helps attract and retain the best workers.

At the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China, the United States joined more than 180 other countries to address problems facing women and to promote workers' basic rights. This was an important step, and we must build on it to further the dialogue about fair pay and treatment in this country. Women and minority workers have long fueled our Nation's progress, and we must do all we can to recognize their achievements and to leave a legacy of equality and justice for their children to cherish.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 11, 1996, as National Pay Inequity Awareness Day. I call upon Government officials, law enforcement agencies, business and industry leaders, educators, and all the people of the United States to recognize the full value of women's skills and contributions to the labor force. I urge all employers to review their wage-setting practices and to see that their employees, particularly women and people of color, are paid fairly for their work.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:15 a.m., April 12, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on April 15.

Proclamation 6884—Pan American Day and Pan American Week, 1996

April 11, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Today, the nations of the Western Hemisphere share a greater commitment to peace and democracy than they have at any other time in history. This consensus has at its core the ideas that liberalized markets work, that democracy is the foremost means of protecting individual human rights, that free trade is the best mechanism to promote growth, and that all of these principles combine to offer hope for improving people's lives. The interdependence of our many countries ensures our united efforts toward these common goals.

We have seen remarkable success from hemispheric cooperation in recent years—from migration issues, to counter-narcotics measures, to promoting trade. This cooperative spirit energized the Summit of the Americas in 1994, where representatives from 34 democratically-elected governments committed themselves to democratic principles, effective governance, sustainable economic growth, and a cleaner global environment. This historic gathering recognized that peace and economic prosperity in any one country are contingent on the health of its neighbors.

We can also take pride in our hemisphere's abilities to address the challenges of our rapidly changing world. The Mexican financial crisis that shook markets last year was contained and reversed because of U.S.-led international support and the region's governments' redoubled commitment to economic reform. Similarly, the progress toward resolving the border dispute between Peru and Ecuador demonstrated the dedication of the Guarantors of the Rio Protocol and others to keeping our hemisphere on a steady course. Nevertheless, recent violations of international law and human rights are sad reminders that one country continues to refuse to join our family of democratic nations.

As we approach the next century, let us celebrate our achievements and maintain high expectations for the continued progress of our hemispheric partnerships. In doing so, we can ensure that the Americas will continue to prosper, integrate, and solve problems in a cooperative, mutually beneficial manner.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 14, 1996, as Pan American Day and April 14 through April 20, 1996, as Pan American Week. I urge the Governors of the 50 States, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and officials of all other areas under the flag of the United States to honor these observances with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., April 15, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 12, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 16.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on the Civil War in Liberia

April 11, 1996

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

On April 4, 1996, small arms and mortar fire broke out in Monrovia, Liberia, apparently as the result of renewed fighting between factions led by Charles Taylor and Roosevelt Johnson involved in the civil war in that country. On April 5, groups of angry civilians set up make-shift checkpoints near the international airport and within the city to protest the destruction of their property by the warring factions. On April 6, the American Embassy began receiving calls from American citizens reporting weapons

fire and the movement of large groups of armed individuals in the city. Further violence, including reported hostage-taking, has continued.

On April 9, due to the deterioration of the security situation and the resulting threat to American citizens, I ordered U.S. military forces to conduct the evacuation from Liberia of private U.S. citizens and certain third-country nationals who have taken refuge in the U.S. Embassy compound wishing to leave. U.S. military security assessment and enhancement teams deployed to Monrovia the same day in order to reinforce and assist the American Embassy. Evacuation operations commenced shortly thereafter. The evacuation, designated Operation Assured Response, is being carried out using MH–53 helicopters staged from Freetown, Sierra Leone. A small number of U.S. military aircraft are supporting this operation from Dakar, Senegal. Approximately 140 military personnel from the U.S. European Command's Special Operations Command are involved in this operation and are backed up by forces from the Southern European Task Force, U.S. Army, Europe. I have also ordered the deployment of U.S. Navy amphibious forces to the region to transport evacuees, if required.

Although U.S. military forces participating in the evacuation are equipped for combat, the evacuation is being undertaken for the purpose of protecting American citizens and is not intended to alter or preserve the existing political status quo in Liberia. I therefore expect that this operation will be of limited duration. A number of our helicopters have been fired upon, but have not been hit.

I have taken this action pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct the foreign relations of the United States and as Commander in Chief and Chief Executive.

I am providing this report as part of my efforts to keep the Congress fully informed, consistent with the War Powers Resolution. I appreciate the support of the Congress in this action to protect American citizens.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 12.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Labour Party Leader Tony Blair of the United Kingdom

April 12, 1996

Q. Good morning, Mr. President—[*inaudible*].

The President. No, not yet. I may have something to say later today, but I think it's not appropriate for me to comment yet. We're trying to find out all of the facts.

Okinawa

Q. Mr. President, on Okinawa could you tell us some of the reasoning that went into that decision——

The President. Excuse me? I'm sorry.

Q. On the base in Okinawa——

The President. Yes. Well, Secretary Perry has been working very hard on that issue to try to deal with what we think are some very legitimate concerns the people of Okinawa have about the noise levels, access to land. And Japan has been a wonderful security partner for us for a long time, and they still are. They pay the highest percentage of support for American forces of any of our foreign host countries. And we thought we ought to try to work through these issues. And the Secretary has worked very hard at it, and so has the Japanese Government. And so I hope we've got a good resolution here that will permit us to defend our own security interests and pursue our interests in the Northern Pacific and fulfill our commitments to our Japanese allies.

Thank you.

President's Taxes

Q. [*Inaudible*]—your taxes. Do you have any advice for the American people?

The President. I always try to pay them. [*Laughter*] I've got an accountant, and I tell him to resolve all doubt in favor of the Government and go on. [*Laughter*] That's what I've been saying for 20 years now.

[*At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.*]

Discussions With Mr. Blair

Q. Mr. President, do you think you'll—[*inaudible*]—the next British Prime Minister?

Mr. Blair. Well, that is not a diplomatic question. [*Laughter*]

The President. If I were in his position that's the question I'd ask. Look, it's all I can do to keep up with American politics. I only hope he's talking to the next American President. [*Laughter*]

Q. Will you be sharing ideas, Mr. President?

The President. Yes, I'm looking forward to discussing a number of things, including, obviously, the Irish peace process and the process in Northern Ireland, which is very important to the United States. And I want to compliment Mr. Blair and his party. I think that the way they have proceeded in this has been very statesmanlike and very much in the interest of his nation and the cause of peace.

Q. And similarities between your two parties as well?

The President. I'll leave that to you.

Mr. Blair. I was saying to the President how immensely helpful people have found his visit to Northern Ireland a few months ago and what a boost it gave to the peace process. And I think that is still there, and it's still helping. I hope we can get it back on track very much.

Q. Mr. Blair, you'll be talking to the President about your own development of——

Mr. Blair. I think we will be talking about many things, Jeremy.

The President. If you give us a chance. [*Laughter*]

Mr. Blair. Quite so. And on that point——

The President. This is a great omen for the peace process. You've got the Americans' greatest Irish reporter here. [*Laughter*] How are you?

Mr. Blair. You're in very good company, Mary.

Q. Is there anything that Mr. Blair can practically do to bring about a revival of the peace talks in Ireland, a truce?

The President. He might have better ideas about that than I do. But the first thing, of course, is that there has to be an election law ratified in the Parliament. But I want to talk to him about it. We'll see what his ideas are.

Q. Do you want all of the parties to participate in the elections and to attend——

The President. Of course. We've always been for all-party talks and all-party participation. That is, all of the parties that are committed to a peaceful democratic future in Northern Ireland.

Q. And do you think Sinn Fein—[*inaudible*]—peaceful democratic future in Northern Ireland?

The President. We have to get back to the conversation here. I've already answered more questions than I meant to. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 10:45 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

April 6

In the early afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Dover Air Force Base, DE, where they met with the families of those who died in the aircraft tragedy in Croatia. In the evening, they returned to Washington, DC.

April 9

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Boris Yeltsin of Russia.

April 10

In the afternoon, following the funeral of Secretary of Commerce Ronald H. Brown at the National Cathedral, the President and Hillary Clinton attended the burial ceremony

at Arlington National Cemetery, VA. They then returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President traveled to Baltimore, MD, where he attended a Democratic National Committee reception at the home of Mayor Kurt Schmoke and a committee dinner at Cave Valley Golf Club. In the late evening, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Margaret A. Coil and Geri Marullo to the Federal Salary Council.

April 11

The White House announced that the President has directed the Department of Health and Human Services to release $180 million in emergency Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds for States, territories, and Indian tribes to help families affected by unusually cold winter weather.

April 12

In the afternoon, the President announced the recess appointment of Mickey Kantor as Secretary of Commerce at a meeting with auto executives, workers, and trade representatives on the Japan-U.S. agreement on autos and auto parts. Later, the President participated in a swearing-in ceremony for Mr. Kantor.

The President announced the recess appointment of Yolanda Townsend Wheat of Missouri to be a member of the National Credit Union Administration Board.

The President announced the appointment of Martin A. Kamarck of New York to serve as President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

The President announced the recess appointment of Robert Clarke Brown of Ohio as a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

The President announced the recess appointment of Lowell Junkins of Iowa to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

The President announced the recess appointment of Daniel Guttman of the District of Columbia to be a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

The President sent to the Congress a request for $250 million in supplemental appropriations for drug law enforcement, treatment, and prevention.

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 April 8

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on Secretary of Commerce Ronald H. Brown's funeral

Released April 9

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Announcement of 34 finalists for the 1996–97 White House Fellowships

Released April 11

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry and NSC Senior Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control Robert Bell on the African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on U.S. intention to sign the African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty

Fact sheet on the African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty

Transcript of a press briefing by Labor Secretary Robert Reich, Treasury Secretary

Robert Rubin, and Small Business Administrator Phil Lader on the President's proposed "Retirement Savings and Security Act"

Transcript of a press briefing by Secretary of State Warren Christopher on the President's upcoming trip to Asia

Transcript of a press briefing by NSC Senior Director for Nonproliferation Dan Poneman, NSC Director for Nonproliferation Ken Fairfax, NSC Senior Director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs Coit Blacker, and State Department Special Adviser for the New Independent States James Collins on the P–8 summit on April 20

Transcript of a press briefing by Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Winston Lord, NSC Senior Director for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Sandy Kristoff, and NSC Senior Director for Economics Robert Kyle on the President's upcoming trip to Asia

Released April 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of a press briefing by National Economic Adviser Laura D'Andrea Tyson and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on the economic aspects of the President's planned visit to the Far East

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on the President and Mrs. Clinton's 1995 Federal income tax return

Acts Approved by the President

Approved April 9

H.R. 2969 / Public Law 104–128
Federal Tea Tasters Repeal Act of 1996

H.J. Res. 168 / Public Law 104–129
Waiving certain enrollment requirements with respect to two bills of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

S. 4 / Public Law 104–130
Line Item Veto Act