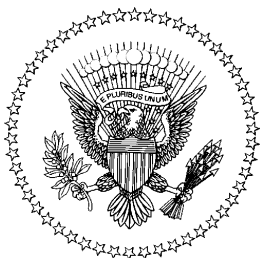


Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



Monday, September 20, 1999
Volume 35—Number 37
Pages 1725–1767

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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.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under

regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 FR 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

Distribution is made only by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* will be furnished by mail to domestic subscribers for \$80.00 per year (\$137.00 for mailing first class) and to foreign subscribers for \$93.75 per year, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The charge for a single copy is \$3.00 (\$3.75 for foreign mailing).

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

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Week Ending Friday, September 17, 1999

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
on Cyprus**

September 10, 1999

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with Public Law 95-384, (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period June 1, 1999, to July 31, 1999. The previous submission covered events during April and May 1999.

Cyprus was one of the many issues raised at the G-8 Summit in Cologne, Germany, this past June. My colleagues agreed that a resolution to the dispute is long overdue and issued a statement urging U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to "invite the leaders of the two parties to negotiations in the fall of 1999." This is a positive step toward addressing the legitimate concerns of both sides and reaching a just and lasting solution for all Cypriots.

In July, Secretary of Defense William Cohen traveled to Greece and Turkey to enhance our bilateral relations and underscore the important role Greece and Turkey play in maintaining stability in the southern European region. Secretary Cohen also emphasized the U.S. commitment to reaching a Cyprus solution.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

September 11, 1999

Good morning. All across America the new school year is now underway with over 53 million children, the largest and most diverse

group ever enrolled. It's a time of hope and excitement for students, parents, and teachers alike. But in many communities, it's also a time of concern—concern that when our children walk through the schoolhouse door they won't be safe from the threat of violence.

We know the vast majority of our schools are safe, but we can't forget the communities in cities, suburbs, and rural areas that do have a serious problem with school violence. And we can't forget that even one incident of school violence is one too many.

The tragic shootings of the past 2 years were a wakeup call, an urgent reminder that to protect our children from violence, we need nothing less than a national campaign that draws on all our resources and demands all our commitment, with all of us taking responsibility.

For more than 6 years now, our administration has worked hard to do our part. We've strengthened and expanded our safe and drug-free schools program, which helps school districts provide counseling, after-school activities, and violence mediation among other things. We enacted a national zero tolerance policy for guns in schools, helping to expel 4,000 students for carrying guns to school last year alone. We announced a grassroots national campaign against youth violence, and we fought hard to keep guns out of the hands of children and criminals. At the first-ever White House School Safety Conference, and after the tragedy in Littleton at a White House strategy session on youth violence, we launched new actions—2,000 more school resource officers in our schools, an antiviolence media campaign you may have already seen on television, and a new plan to help schools respond to deadly violence. These steps have made our schools safer, more disciplined, better learning environments. But when it comes to protecting our children, we must do more.

We know the best solutions to the problem of youth violence come when everyone at the local level works together—students, parents, teachers, police officers, local judges, counselors, religious and community leaders. That's why I asked the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services to develop the Safe Schools/Healthy Schools initiative to help communities coordinate their efforts to identify troubled young people, prevent them from acting violently, and respond when violence does occur.

As part of this new program, we launched a national competition to find and fund the best ideas to reduce youth violence. Hundreds of communities applied. Today I'm pleased to announce that 54 communities with the best plans will receive more than \$100 million in safe schools grants. These communities will use the funds in a variety of ways proven to reduce youth violence—from hiring more school resource officers to improving mental health services, to modernizing school security systems, to expanding after-school and mentoring programs. Best of all, they engage the entire community to meet the challenge of building safer schools.

I'm particularly glad that two of these grants are going to communities that have suffered much—one to Jonesboro, Arkansas, in my home State, whose plan includes in-home counseling for at-risk families; and one to Springfield, Oregon, whose plan will build on the strong partnership the schools developed with law enforcement after the tragic shooting there last year.

In the face of terrible loss, the good people of these towns have pulled together to protect their children, and they're an inspiration for all of us. All over America, people are doing their part to fight youth violence. But there are some things only Congress can do. I have called repeatedly on Congress to pass a commonsense juvenile crime bill to prevent youth violence and keep guns out of the wrong hands, with measures that include provisions to require child safety locks on guns, to ban the import of large-ammunition clips, and to really close the gun show loophole.

For months now, the American people have waited for Congress to act. Meanwhile,

our children have returned to school in ever greater numbers. So I say again, it shouldn't take another tragedy to make this a priority. It's time for Congress to put politics aside and send me a bill that puts our children's safety first. Let's make this school year the safest yet.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:28 p.m. on September 9 in the Oval Office at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on September 11. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 10 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Jiang Zemin of China in Auckland, New Zealand

September 11, 1999

Situation in East Timor

Q. Mr. President, on East Timor, what's the next step for the U.S. and the international community, now that Indonesia seems to be failing to stop the violence there?

President Clinton. Well, today we suspended all military sales and continue to work to try to persuade the Indonesians to support the United Nations' operation to go in and help to end the violence and secure the safety of the people there. And that's what we have to continue to do.

I think the United Nations will support such an endeavor if the Indonesians will request it. And I think it is imperative that they do so. And I think we're making headway.

Q. Is there any time frame for that? Is there any kind of deadline on that?

President Clinton. Well, I think you'll see a development here in the next couple of days. I think something will happen. I'll be surprised if it doesn't. We're working—not just the United States, people all over the world are working very hard on it. And I think people in Asia are very concerned about it.

China-U.S. Relations

Q. Mr. President, how are U.S.-Chinese relations now?

President Clinton. Well, I don't want to speak for President Jiang, but from my point of view, I'm eager to get on with it and have this meeting. [Laughter]

Q. Will you be able to get a WTO deal, sir?

President Clinton. Certainly hope so.

Taiwan

Q. Mr. President, what's your message when it comes to Taiwan?

President Clinton. My message is that our policy has not and will not change. We favor one China. We favor a peaceful approach to working out the differences. We favor the cross-strait dialog. Our policy has not changed, and it will not change.

Q. President Jiang, are you sticking with your threat to use military force against Taiwan, sir?

President Jiang. Our policy on Taiwan is a consistent one. That is, one, peaceful unification, one country-two systems. However, if there were to be any foreign intervention, or if there were to be Taiwan independence, then we would not undertake to renounce the use of force.

NOTE: The exchange began at 5:18 p.m. in the Drawing Room at the Government House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks to American and Asian Business Leaders in Auckland

September 12, 1999

Thank you very much, and good morning. Ambassador Bolger, thank you for the fine introduction and for the years of friendship and cooperation we have enjoyed. Prime Minister Shipley, thank you for being here today and for making my family and me and our American group feel so welcome in New Zealand.

Since this is the sort of economic engine of APEC, all of you, I do want to note that my mother-in-law and my daughter and I did our part to support the New Zealand economy yesterday, and we got some nice free press for doing it, in the newspaper. I appreciate that.

I'd like to thank Jack Smith, who is up here with us, the CEO of General Motors, for his leadership, and those of the other American business leaders—John Maasland, the CEO of APEC; Ambassador Beeman. I'd also like to thank the American team who is here with me—our Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright; our Trade Representative, Charlene Barshefsky; National Security Adviser Sandy Berger; and National Economic Adviser Gene Sperling.

I am delighted to be here in Auckland for the last gathering of Asia-Pacific leaders in the 20th century. We primarily deal with economic issues, but today, if you'll forgive me, I'd like to begin with a few comments about security issues, because the eyes of the world today, not just in Asia but throughout the globe, are on East Timor, where the people voted overwhelmingly for independence, where, I believe, Indonesia's Government did the right thing in supporting the vote, just as it did the right thing in holding its own free elections earlier this year.

Now it is clear, however, that the Indonesian military has aided and abetted militia violence in East Timor, in violation of the commitment of its leaders to the international community. This has allowed the militias to murder innocent people, to send thousands fleeing for their lives, to attack the United Nations compound.

The United States has suspended all military cooperation, assistance, and sales to Indonesia. I have made clear that my willingness to support future economic assistance from the international community will depend upon how Indonesia handles the situation from today forward. We are carefully reviewing all our own economic and commercial programs there. The present course of action is imperiling Indonesia's future, as well as that of the individual East Timorese.

The Indonesian Government and military must not only stop what they are doing but reverse course. They must halt the violence not just in Dili but throughout the nation. They must permit humanitarian assistance and let the U.N. mission do its job. They must allow the East Timorese who have been pushed from their homes to return safely.

They must implement the results of the balloting, and they must allow an international force to help restore security.

We are ready to support an effort led by Australia to mobilize a multinational force to help to bring security to East Timor under U.N. auspices. We all have a great deal at stake in the resolution of this crisis. We have a strong interest in seeing an Indonesia that is stable, prosperous, and democratic, the largest Muslim country in the world, a nation where soldiers are honored for their commitment to defend the people, not to abuse them—all of that has been called into question in the last few days. We don't want to see the will of the people overturned by violence and intimidation. And because the U.N. helped to organize the vote in East Timor, we have a special responsibility to help to see it through, to stand up to those who now break their promises to the international community.

It is not just the people of East Timor who deserve a democratic future, though they do. It is not just the people of Indonesia who have embraced their own choices in a free election, though they, too, deserve a democratic future. We must help both the people of East Timor and the democratic process in Indonesia because the world community seeks to have the integrity of democracy protected everywhere. And today, again I say, the eyes of the world are on that tiny place and on those poor innocent, suffering people.

I would also like to say just a couple of other words about security issues. I will meet here with President Kim and Prime Minister Obuchi to discuss peace and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula. The people of North Korea need food and opportunities. They need engagement with the south and the chance for a brighter future. They do not need new weaponry that threatens the security of the region and the world.

I would also like to say a word about China and the present tensions between China and Taiwan. The United States has enjoyed friendly relations with both China and Taiwan for some years now. Our policy has been rooted in our commitment to one China, our commitment to a peaceful resolution of the differences between China and Taiwan, our commitment to continuously expanding the

cross-strait dialog. We have a clear policy enunciated in the three communiques and in our Taiwan Relations Act.

I reaffirmed to President Jiang yesterday, and I will do what I can to support while I am here and after I leave here, the proposition that these peoples have too much at stake in a peaceful future, benefiting all their—all—their children to let the present difficulties deteriorate into a confrontation in which, in the end, all would suffer. I hope all of you, to the extent that you can, will reaffirm that course.

Let me say that, returning to economics, this is a much happier occasion than the last APEC meeting. I think the uniform of the day for the business people sort of illustrates that. *[Laughter]* Last year you might have met in straitjackets. *[Laughter]* But economies that were going downhill then, now seem to be clearly on the road to recovery.

Just for example, South Korea's industry has produced 30 percent more this June than last. Its economy is expected to grow at least 6½ percent this year. All over the region, key stock markets are now above pre-crisis levels, currencies are stronger, workers are going back to work.

And for every one of you that had something to do with this recovery, I want to express my thanks to the businesses that had to tighten their belts, but pressed ahead; to the governments that had to pursue difficult, but vital reforms; to the international community which mobilized over \$100 billion in assistance and applied it wisely; to the countries which, like the United States, kept our markets open to keep the crisis from becoming worse and to help it turn around more quickly.

Still, the consequences of the last couple of years have been quite severe. Far too many people lost their jobs, their businesses, and their dreams. There are longstanding concerns about stability, openness, human rights, and the environment which remain.

Therefore, the main thing I want to say about economics today is that this is not a time for complacency. There is still hard work to be done and a great deal to be won on the eve of this new millennium.

Here in Auckland, we should put APEC's weight behind the new trade round to be

launched at the WTO meeting in Seattle. We should continue to reform the global financial architecture. We must work together to promote stability, as well as peace.

We, in the United States, knew when this crisis started that we had to work in all these ways. We have worked on the global financial architecture. We have worked to try to promote a new round of world trade. We also, remembering the awful experience of the Great Depression, worked hard to keep our markets open. For the first half of 1999, our trade deficit was more than double what it was in the first half of 1997.

But I think it is clear that that decision, even though it's somewhat controversial in the United States, was the right decision for American workers and for American businesses because we always need to be looking at the long term and the prospects of creating a global economy in which there is more trade, not less.

With 45 percent of the world's trade, the APEC nations have a vital interest in whether we take this direction or not. We can lead the way to a stronger, fairer, world trade system just as we did with the information technology agreement 3 years ago with APEC. Our APEC ministers already have backed an ambitious trade agenda; now it's time for the leaders to follow suit.

When we get to Seattle, we should then try to make APEC's agenda the world's agenda. We should be committed strongly to dramatic increase of market access in agricultural, industrial, and service areas. We should be committed to reaching some other agreements along the way during the process of the trade round—for example, to keep the information superhighway free of tolls, with a permanent moratorium on electronic commerce duties—to improve openness in government procurement, to speed up tariff liberalization in all the key areas we've identified. And I also believe we should be committed to completing the entire round within 3 years. Our citizens shouldn't have to wait any longer for governments to get a job like this done.

A strong world trading system is good for all the nations of the region. It is certainly good for the United States, where about a third of our economic growth came from ex-

panded trade until the Asian financial crisis. Over a third of our agricultural products are exported. One in 10 of our jobs depends on exports; millions more depend on our ability to import. In our country, we have had remarkable growth with low inflation, thanks in no small measure to greater competition.

The world trading system will be even more beneficial as more nations commit to play by its rules. Yesterday I had a very good meeting with President Jiang. And China and the United States reaffirmed our commitment to China's entry into the WTO on commercially viable terms. I hope we can make it happen soon. I want to assure you—every one of you—that we are working hard to make it happen soon.

I also believe strongly that our world trading system will grow in popular support if it supports our values. And I mean values that are generally shared by civilized nations across cultural, religious, and regional lines. Twice in the last year or so, I have gone to Geneva to talk about a world trading system for the 21st century and the importance of honoring our values when it comes to labor, when it comes to the environment, when it comes to the openness with which powerful bodies make their decisions.

Just as we will continue to enforce our trade laws at home to ensure fair competition, we will continue to address what I believe are commitments all of our people really want us to embrace—to decent working conditions and to the health of the global environment.

This will not be, however, about erecting new barriers, but about lifting the lives of all people. I am very pleased, for example, that the delegates at the International Labor Organization unanimously adopted a convention banning the worst forms of child labor.

I am encouraged by our common commitment to address the challenge of global warming. Let me say this is still a very contentious issue among some developing and some developed countries. There are many developing countries that honestly believe that developed countries will use the whole climate change debate as a way of slowing economic opportunity for people in developing countries.

I completely disagree with that. Those who hold this view believe that the only way to grow an economy in the 21st century is with the same energy use patterns we saw in the 20th century. But if you talk to Mr. Smith—and, Jack, I read your press in the morning paper today—and what did he say? He said there are three dramatic changes going on in the automobile industry. One is in commerce—GM sells its first car in Taiwan over the Internet. Two is that cars are becoming automated information, communications, and entertainment systems, self-contained. And three is that the internal combustion engine is being changed in fundamental ways. And before we know it, there will be both blended-fuel and alternative-fuel vehicles which will be emitting far less greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, in ways that accelerate economic growth rather than diminish it.

So I'm going on—as you can see, I'm not looking at my text here; this is something I really believe. One of the central—the world works by adherence to our departure from big ideas. And we organize ourselves around them, and then people like you do real well when you figure out how to improve on them, modify them, find a little niche in which to move. But if you stay with a big idea that's wrong too long, no matter how good the rest of our creativity is, we all get in trouble. And no matter how hard we work, we get in trouble, because we work harder and harder and harder at the wrong things.

So I just want to say—I only get to make one more of these speeches, and then I'll be gone. *[Laughter]* I'll be an ex big idea, right? It will be over. *[Laughter]* One of the big ideas the world has to abandon is the idea that the only way to build a modern, prosperous economy is with the industrial energy use patterns of a former era. It is not true.

And when you look at the future of China, when you look at the future of India, when you look at all the other developing economies, and you imagine what you can do with the cell phone, with the Internet, and with alternative energy development, a lot of very poor places in Africa and Asia and other parts of the world can skip a whole generation of

economic development unless we stay in chains to a big idea that is no longer true.

I hope you will help to lead the way to bring the developing and the developed countries together around finding new technologies that will both improve the economy and the environment at the same time.

Finally, let me say, I am very grateful that there is a growing recognition that the world trading system and the WTO itself should be more open and accountable. I think this is very, very important. I think that there's a lot of controversy about it from time to time on the specifics, but in the end, greater accountability and greater openness and greater involvement of all elements of society in these decisionmakings will build greater support for a global economic system.

I'd like to say just a few words about the global economic architecture, if I might. I think there's a real danger that I sense growing of people to say, "Well, things are fine now; we don't need to continue to do anything about the economics of the financial architecture." I think that's a mistake.

The Asian financial crisis came after a high tide of capital washed into the region, often highly leveraged, flowing quickly into countries without adequate risk assessment. When the tide receded just as rapidly, if not more rapidly, it left behind a legacy of mounting debt, devaluation, and severe dislocation.

For us in the United States, the crisis underscored our tremendous stake in the stability and success of Asia. It demonstrated how closely tied our economies had become. And as our Asian markets dried up, our companies, our banks, our workers, our farmers clearly felt the effects.

We've been seeking new ways to help the international system moderate the cycle of boom and bust in much the way that individual economies have learned to do since the Great Depression. We are working more closely to make sure that all, including the developing economies, have a seat at the table, through new mechanisms like the financial stability forum. I just want to urge you all to keep this progress on course.

Emerging economies, of course, have work to do—they still have to continue to restructure their banking systems, make their corporations more accountable, reduce reliance

on short-term loans, encourage greater direct investment. Creditor nations must improve our own financial supervision and regulation so investors will assess risks more carefully and banks will lend more wisely.

The IMF now has special financing available to help a country head off a financial contagion—something we in the United States worked very hard to set up—provided the country has maintained responsible economic policies. We must continue to develop such tools.

Working with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, we must also strengthen safety nets so people have unemployment insurance and job training, so that impoverished children are not the first and hardest hit victims of an economic downturn. We must, in short, continue our efforts to put a human face on the global economy—not because it is charity, but because it is the right thing to do from a humane, as well as from an economic standpoint. It is essential to the long-term success of the market. An active role for government is important not to restrain competition or to dictate the flow of investment, but to ensure fair dealing and a level playing field.

New Zealand is leading efforts to broaden competition in domestic markets. The United States and other APEC partners are working with the private sector across the region to make it easier to move goods and services across borders. Our economies will work even better when we have stronger standards for disclosure by businesses and governments.

One of our leaders made a comment the other day that I kind of wished I had made because I thought it was so clever. Speaking of the broad consensus for greater openness, President Estrada said, “Now, when Alan Greenspan and the common people have the same view, we should listen.” [*Laughter*] I don’t know whether Mr. Greenspan liked that, but I liked it very much. [*Laughter*]

Let me say in one last point, I think more openness, more honesty, more responsibility in our business dealings gives us a more sup-

portive political system and, therefore, gives us better economic results. I don’t believe nations can reap the full benefits of the technology revolution if the free flow of information is curbed, for example. I think entrepreneurs and investors will flee nations where the most lucrative deals are made in secret, where contracts aren’t honored, where courts aren’t fair, where creativity is stifled, where there are grievous worker complaints.

Instead, I think they will be drawn to countries where there’s fairness and openness and freedom, good education system, and broad participation in the prosperity of the nation. These things are important to all of us.

So I say I’m glad you’re here in these relaxed jackets instead of straitjackets this year. I’m grateful for what all of you have done to support APEC and its trade liberalization agenda and, specifically, to help lead the nations of Asia out of its financial crisis. But there is still a great deal for us to do together to expand trade, to strengthen the financial architecture, to strengthen the conditions among and within nations for success of the global economy with a human face, and to provide the basic framework of security without which economies cannot grow freely.

On balance, I think one would have to be quite optimistic looking toward the new millennium. But I think we also would have to be quite sober in the price that we will pay if any of us should fail to fulfill our responsibility. If we work hard at the right things, our children will live in a much better world.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:35 a.m. at the New Zealand National Maritime Museum. In his remarks, he referred to New Zealand Ambassador to the U.S. James B. Bolger; Prime Minister Jennifer Shipley of New Zealand; President Clinton’s mother-in-law, Dorothy Rodham; U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand Josiah H. Beeman; President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea; Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi of Japan; President Jiang Zemin of China; and President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea and Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi of Japan and an Exchange With Reporters in Auckland

September 12, 1999

President Clinton. Let me say just very briefly, I am honored to have the opportunity to have this meeting with President Kim and Prime Minister Obuchi. We have much to discuss, but I would just mention two or three issues: our common interest in stability and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula, our concern about events in East Timor, our commitment to try to find a common ground on economic issues here and at the WTO meeting to be held in Seattle in the next couple of months, and our commitment to continued, sustained economic growth in the nations of Asia.

I'm very concerned and pleased with the apparent economic turnaround in the region, and I want to do whatever I can to continue to support both these leaders as they attempt to lead the way there.

I also will reaffirm what I said yesterday in my meeting with President Jiang, which is the interests of the United States in the long-term stable, constructive relationship with China, something I know that is supported by both President Kim and Prime Minister Obuchi.

So I am delighted to have them here.

East Timor

Q. Mr. President, you mentioned earlier that you would support an international force in East Timor, but you didn't say anything about a commitment of U.S. troops. Could you give us your thinking on that, sir?

President Clinton. Well, the discussions that I have had with Prime Minister Howard and others—but since Australia would lead this mission and provide most of the troops—have centered around our providing some of the things that only we can provide, probably, like extensive airlift support to bring troops from other countries, primarily of Asia, into the theater, other logistical support—intelligence, communications—some things which would require our presence in a lim-

ited way within the country, within East Timor.

Our people are working that out. General Shelton and our commander, our commander in chief of the Pacific, Admiral Blair, are working with the Australians, and no final decisions have been made, nor could they be until I have extensive congressional consultations. I've talked to, oh, probably 8 or 10 congressional leaders on this, and the Secretary of Defense and Mr. Podesta, on my behalf back home, have talked to many more. But we haven't finalized anything yet.

Keep in mind, the position of the international community at the moment is that such a force would have to be approved by the United Nations, which would only happen if Indonesia asked for it. So right now I think the important thing is to keep the pressure up here to try to get the Indonesians to fix the problem and, if not, to go on and ask for help, support from the United Nations.

[At this point, a question was asked, and President Kim answered, in Korean, and no translation was provided.]

President Clinton. Would you like to say anything?

[At this point, Prime Minister Obuchi made brief remarks in Japanese, and no translation was provided.]

President Clinton. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:02 p.m. in the Stamford Ballroom at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to President Jiang Zemin of China; and Prime Minister John Howard of Australia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Trilateral Summit Joint Press Statement

September 12, 1999

United States President William Jefferson Clinton, Republic of Korea President Kim Dae-jung and Japanese Prime Minister Obuchi Keizo met today in Auckland to continue to coordinate their respective policies toward the DPRK and to discuss regional and global issues.

The three leaders expressed their expectation that the comprehensive and integrated approach developed jointly by the U.S., the ROK, and Japan provides an invaluable opportunity to ensure peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, and they also expressed their hope that the DPRK responds positively to the concepts discussed by Dr. Perry during his visit to Pyongyang last May.

The three leaders confirmed that they are prepared to undertake measures to improve their respective relations with the DPRK as the DPRK addresses the concerns of the U.S., ROK, and Japan, and takes steps to reduce tensions and establish lasting peace on the Korean peninsula and beyond.

The leaders confirmed that the 1994 Agreed Framework serves as an integral part of their joint efforts as they seek improved relations with the DPRK.

The three leaders reconfirmed their commitment to continue to act in close coordination at all times.

The leaders expressed grave concern over the continuing violence and resulting humanitarian disaster in East Timor. They reaffirmed that the primary responsibility of restoring law and order in East Timor resides with the Indonesian government, and urged the Indonesian government to take prompt measures to ensure that the free will of the East Timorese people, as clearly expressed in the referendum of August 30, be fully respected. They agreed to work closely with the United Nations and other members of the international community toward that end, keeping in mind the desirability of maintaining the stability of Indonesia as a whole in order to avoid possible negative consequences which might arise in the region.

The three leaders welcomed the fairly smooth progress being made in the efforts to overcome the Asian financial crisis as various economic indicators show signs of economic recovery, and have agreed to cooperate closely in order to sustain the momentum for recovery of the Asian countries. They underscored the need for APEC economies to work together for the successful launching of a new three-year WTO Round at the November Seattle WTO Ministerial. They agreed that the region's leaders must stay the

course with politically difficult macro-economic and structural reforms to sustain the region's recovery.

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

Remarks on the Situation in East Timor and an Exchange With Reporters in Auckland

September 13, 1999

The President. Let me begin by saying that I welcome the statement of President Habibie last night inviting the United Nations to send a security force into East Timor. I think that this is a real tribute to the determination of the friends of the people there—the Australians, the New Zealanders here, all the people here at APEC who express solidarity.

I think there are a couple of points I'd like to make about it. Number one, it's important to get the details worked out and get this force in in a hurry, in a way that it can be effective. Number two, if that happens, then we can resume our work with the people of Indonesia, the world's fourth largest country, to help their transition to democracy and the restoration of prosperity there.

In terms of what our role would be in East Timor, we have had extensive discussions with the Australians through our defense channels, and we've been asked to provide a limited but important function related to airlift, transportation, communications, intelligence, and perhaps some engineering work. Exactly what the details would be have yet to be worked out and require more extensive consultations with Congress.

I made a number of calls before I left the country. Secretary Cohen and Mr. Podesta are back there now working on this issue. But I hope we can wrap it up. The most important thing is for President Habibie to make good on his statement, get the details worked out, get the force in in a hurry.

Q. Mr. President, will there be any U.S. ground troops in combat roles in East Timor?

The President. We've not discussed that; we've not been asked for that. I talked to Prime Minister Howard yesterday, and I stopped in Hawaii, as all of you know, and

met with our commander in chief there, Admiral Blair, and, obviously, I've talked to Secretary Cohen and General Shelton. What we have been asked to do so far relates to airlift; what countries are going to contribute to troops—someone needs to take them to the theater—relates to transportation, communications, intelligence, and the possibility of some engineering work. All of that would require some presence on the ground in East Timor, but no one has asked us for any combat troops.

Q. Mr. President, these are troops that, by and large, have never worked together before. It's not like the NATO kind of force. Do you see for the United States any kind of coordinating role to keep the peacekeepers together, to have a command structure for them?

The President. We might be asked to provide some help on command and control. But keep in mind, a number of these troops have worked together. There is a group here in this part of the Asia-Pacific region that train together, that work together, that do exercises together. So there is some experience here. But there will be some work to be done, depending on how many countries come on the command and control, and if we're asked to provide some technical assistance there, of course, we'd be willing to help.

Q. Mr. President, how much control will the Indonesians have about the makeup of the force? They've already said that they're uncomfortable with the Australians being the leaders.

The President. Well, that has to be worked out today. But my view is that we should work with the Indonesians in a cooperative fashion. Perhaps they should have some parallel presence even, but they should not be able to say who is in or not in the force and what the structure of the force will be. Otherwise it will raise all kinds of questions about whether there will be integrity in the force and it will also delay the implementation.

The truth is the Australians are willing to carry the lion's share of the role. They're willing to put in a large number of people. They have enormous military capacity. Our people have great confidence in working with them. And so I don't think that we should be in

a position of having this thing delayed for days and days and days over that, and I hope that it won't be when the talks occur today with the Indonesians leadership.

Q. Mr. President, as a practical matter, what's the quickest you think a deployment could occur—24 hours, 48 hours—how quick?

The President. I think we could begin to move quickly, but I think it depends upon the meeting today with the Indonesians. Let's wait and see what happens today, and then you ask me that question either late today or tomorrow, I can give you a more intelligent answer.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:45 a.m. at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to President B.J. Habibie of Indonesia; and Prime Minister John Howard of Australia.

Statement on the National Bioethics Advisory Commission's Report on Human Stem Cell Research

September 13, 1999

Today my National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC) delivered its report on "The Ethical Use of Human Stem Cells in Research." Because of the enormous medical potential of such research, I asked the NBAC in November 1998 to look at the ethical and medical issues surrounding human stem cell research. The scientific results that have emerged in just the past few months already strengthen the basis for my hope that one day stem cells will be used to replace cardiac muscle cells for people with heart disease, nerve cells for hundreds of thousands of Parkinson's patients, or insulin-producing cells for children who suffer from diabetes.

The issues addressed by the NBAC's recommendations are complex and difficult. The Commissioners are to be commended for the thoroughness with which they engaged in this discussion and the national dialog that they facilitated, seeking the views and opinions of virtually every segment of our society, including scientists, patients, scholars from most of the major religions in the United States, lawyers, philosophers, ethicists, and the public.

I want to thank Dr. Harold Shapiro, Chairman of the NBAC, and other Commissioners for a thoughtful report that will contribute significantly to the efforts of my administration as we establish the highest ethical standards for the conduct of human stem cell research.

The Auckland Challenge: APEC Economic Leaders' Declaration

September 13, 1999

We, the Economic Leaders of APEC, celebrate here in Auckland ten years of unprecedented cooperation in our region, in pursuit of a vision of stability, security and prosperity for our peoples. We shall continue to exercise leadership to reach our goals and to meet the challenge we have set ourselves.

We welcome the improved performance and prospects of our economies since we last met, and commend the actions taken to reform those economies affected by the crisis. The cooperative growth strategy we adopted in Kuala Lumpur, and sound macroeconomic policies in key economies, have supported the restoration of confidence and growth, and have allowed us to share growing confidence about our prospects.

We are not complacent about the risks that might impede recovery and sustainable growth and we will sustain the momentum for reform. Continued multilateral and bilateral support is still important. We welcome and endorse the efforts of Ministers through the year in pursuit of APEC's goals. As Leaders, we accept responsibility for resisting protectionism, opening markets further, and addressing structural and regulatory weaknesses that contributed to the economic downturn from 1997. We will achieve this by strengthening our markets through regulatory reform and enhanced competition and by improving the international framework governing trade and investment flows. To this end we commit to the launch of a new Round of negotiations in the World Trade Organisation.

All people in our communities have a stake in the success of APEC. We want to ensure they achieve their full potential for improved economic and social well being. We particu-

larly welcome the more active participation of women and business in APEC's work this year.

Supporting Growth through Strong and Open Markets

Improved competitiveness through ongoing reform is the road to recovery and sustainable growth. Through APEC, we seek to expand opportunities for business and employment growth, build strong and open markets and ensure that our communities and economies can participate successfully in the international economy. Open, transparent and well-governed markets, both domestic and international, are the essential foundation of prosperity and enable enterprises to innovate and create wealth.

We will strengthen our markets by:

- providing greater transparency and predictability in corporate and public sector governance
- enhancing the role of competition to improve efficiency and broaden participation by enterprises
- improving the quality of regulation and the capacity of regulators to design and implement policies for sustainable growth
- reducing compliance costs and facilitating business growth
- building a favorable regional and international environment for free and fair competition

In reconfirming our commitment to achieve the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment by 2010/2020, we endorse the attached APEC Principles to Enhance Competition and Regulatory Reform. These principles provide a core part of the framework for strengthening our markets which will better integrate individual and collective actions by APEC economies to achieve those goals.

We accept Ministers' proposals for an initial work programme to strengthen markets. This gives priority to strengthening market infrastructure and human capacity in our economies and enterprises, especially in developing economies. It also calls for specific implementation strategies in areas such as natural gas and e-commerce. We call upon

the private sector, including the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) and the APEC Financiers' Group, to contribute to these efforts.

We welcome and endorse the work of our Finance Ministers, and encourage their efforts to strengthen domestic financial markets and secure the foundation for the return of capital to the region by:

- enhanced supervision of financial markets, including through improved training of supervisors and regulators
- developing domestic bond markets based on the just published Compendium of Sound Practices
- developing and applying agreed corporate governance principles

The alignment of the APEC Finance Ministers' process with the APEC Leaders' process offers new opportunities for cooperation. We instruct our Ministers to pursue greater links among APEC fora and their work programmes. We look forward to receiving a report from Finance Ministers of further progress in dealing with financial market issues when we next meet.

We reaffirm that individual actions by economies are the principal means by which APEC's goal will be attained. We acknowledge that progress towards the Bogor Goals has been uneven, and undertake to continue concrete actions to fulfill our commitment. We also accept the views of ABAC and other business representatives who have called for action plans to be more specific, transparent and comprehensive, and welcome the initiative by Ministers to review and strengthen processes for individual and collective actions under the Osaka Action Agenda.

APEC's trade facilitation programmes are already delivering substantial benefits—in customs harmonisation, standards and conformance, and increased mobility of business people. We welcome the agreed new initiatives, and instruct Ministers to give priority to this work next year, in consultation with business, and to better communicate the value of APEC's trade facilitation role.

Enhanced economic and technical cooperation is essential if we are to lift our peoples into prosperity, and narrow the development gap among Asia/Pacific economies. The financial crisis has underlined the importance

of cooperation in human and institutional capacity building, science and technology exchanges and development of infrastructure. We direct our Ministers to give special attention in the coming year to improving effective and coordinated delivery of APEC's Ecotech and capacity building programmes, in accordance with the Manila Declaration.

We welcome Ministers' report on the APEC Food System proposed by the APEC Business Advisory Council, and endorse its recommendations on the development of rural infrastructure, dissemination of technological advances in food production and processing, and promotion of trade in food products. A robust regional food system that efficiently links food production, food processing and consumption, is a vital contribution to meeting the objectives of APEC. We instruct Ministers to implement the recommendations taking into account ABAC's submission this year, and monitor annually progress towards achieving the APEC Food System.

We recognise the key role that electronic commerce will play in linking our economies. APEC must continue its efforts to create a favourable environment for e-commerce in cooperation with the private sector.

In a little over 100 days, APEC economies will face the challenges and risks of the century date change. Intense activities in economies and throughout the region have lessened risks but more cooperative planning must occur. We recognise that global interdependence means we must continue our efforts to prepare, accelerate cross-border contingency planning, and enhance transparency about readiness as a matter of the highest priority. We adopt the APEC Y2K 100 Days Cooperation Initiative to intensify cooperation for responding to potential Y2K events. We agree to share information and expertise about Y2K impacts on critical infrastructures during and after the date change.

APEC in the Global Economy

APEC will continue to play a leadership role in strengthening the global economy, especially the multilateral trading system.

Strong financial systems are fundamental to achieving robust, open and growing economies. We welcome the report from our Finance Ministers on developments in

strengthening the international finance architecture and are encouraged by the progress made. The establishment of the Financial Stability Forum and the new informal mechanism to enhance dialogue among the systematically important economies should advance cooperation on strengthening the international financial system. We support ongoing efforts to improve crisis prevention and crisis resolution, and urge prompt action to improve transparency of highly leveraged institutions. We also support the developing consensus on the need to ensure that reforms of the international financial system, and domestic financial markets, are mutually reinforcing. APEC's diverse membership provides a special contribution to discussions on domestic and international financial reforms. In respect of both the public and private sectors, APEC advocates:

- greater transparency and openness including improved reliability and timeliness of information
- clearer accountability for decisions and judgements

This year, APEC has a unique opportunity to give impetus to deliberations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO). We will give the strongest possible support at Seattle to the launch of a new Round of multilateral negotiations within the WTO, and endorse the positions adopted by Ministers. We recognise the need to build public confidence in this process and to improve coordination on trade related matters among relevant international organisations. We agree on the importance of ensuring full implementation of existing WTO agreements. We see continued growth in international trade and investment as the best means of achieving prosperity and security.

In particular, we agree that the new Round should:

- include comprehensive market access negotiations covering industrial tariffs in addition to the already mandated negotiations on services and agriculture
- lead to timely and effective improvements in market access to the benefit of all participating economies, particularly developing economies and, consistent with this objective, provide scope

to review and strengthen rules and disciplines

- have a balanced and sufficiently broad-based agenda and be concluded within three years as a single package which does not preclude the possibility of early results on a provisional basis

We support, as one of the important objectives of the negotiations on agriculture, the abolition of agricultural export subsidies and unjustifiable export prohibitions and restrictions.

We call on all WTO members to join us at Seattle in a commitment not to impose new or more restrictive trade measures for the duration of the negotiations, as applied during the Uruguay Round. We pledge not to impose any such measures before the Seattle WTO Ministerial meeting.

Support for ongoing WTO negotiations will remain a key area of APEC's work throughout those negotiations. In particular we resolve to work actively in the negotiations to ensure that APEC and WTO are mutually reinforcing. To respond fully to the challenges and opportunities of today's interdependent world for the benefit of all our peoples and to avoid fragmentation of the international trading system, we need to ensure convergence between regional and multilateral liberalisation initiatives.

In order to achieve universality of membership, we also seek early progress in the accession negotiations to the WTO, including for those APEC economies that are not yet WTO members. We issue a strong call for these accession negotiations to be concluded at the earliest opportunity, if possible prior to commencement of the new WTO negotiations.

Participation in Prosperity

As Leaders, we recognise our responsibilities to ensure full and successful participation by all of our populations in the modern economy. Technological change has irreversibly integrated global markets for goods and services, and finance. The effective development and application of knowledge will be a key driver of future economic success, and we pledge to ensure that APEC economies are to the forefront of building and sharing

their expertise in this vital sector. Cooperation in such fields as e-education, science and technology and life-long skills development should be strengthened. Globalisation must become an opportunity for all.

We commit to ensuring that APEC takes a leading role in enabling developing economies to participate successfully in the global economy, through enhancing human and institutional capacities and progressively opening markets. We recognize that income and wealth disparities between and within economies can pose a challenge for social stability. Appropriate social safety nets play a role in facilitating economic and social adjustment. We welcome efforts by APEC economies, and other institutions, to address social safety net issues, and encourage further efforts to maintain employment and environmentally sustainable growth. In that regard, we welcome the outcomes of the Human Resources Development and Small and Medium Enterprises Ministerial Meetings. APEC economies will pursue enhanced dialogue and continue to seek policy approaches that encourage inclusion and economic advancement, as well as initiative and innovation.

We welcome the Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC, which is a significant step to enhance the ability of women to contribute to and benefit from prosperity of the region. We shall review implementation of the Framework when we next meet.

In 1999, we have enhanced opportunities for business, especially smaller enterprises, to make their views known in APEC. Those views are of keen interest to us. Further dialogue with the private sector, at all levels, is essential to maintain the dynamism and relevance of APEC. We also look to the private sector for support for reform.

Once again, we welcome the recommendations from the APEC Business Advisory Council, ABAC, and thank members of the Council for their contribution in areas such as capacity building, finance, food, e-commerce and air services. We instruct Ministers to take the ABAC recommendations into account during their work in 2000. We support implementation of the eight steps for more competitive air services, and the identification of further steps to liberalise air services in accordance with the Bogor Goals.

Tourism and air services have a large contribution to make to development and community building in the region.

Conclusion

As Leaders, we recognise that our role in APEC, as in our own economies, is to set the course which will allow for sustainable development and which will deliver a strong social dividend to their populations. We acknowledge that economic adjustments may be difficult, and that there is social cost which must be reduced. But we are united in our belief that the path to increased prosperity requires continual reform and adjustment of our policies and outlook. An open regional framework, within which competition and cooperation flourish, is the best means of building a prosperous future together. We embark on APEC's second decade confident that a deepening and enduring spirit of openness, partnership and community is being built. The challenge we collectively face is to maintain our momentum and deliver on our commitment. We accept the challenge.

NOTE: This declaration was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release. An original was not available for verification of the content of this declaration.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on United States Activities in the United Nations

September 13, 1999

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit herewith a report of the activities of the United Nations and of the participation of the United States therein during the calendar year 1998. The report is required by the United Nations Participation Act (Public Law 79-264; 22 U.S.C. 287b).

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 13, 1999.

**Message to the Senate Transmitting
the Slovenia-United States Tax
Convention With Documentation**

September 13, 1999

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith for Senate advice and consent to ratification the Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of Slovenia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Ljubljana on June 21, 1999. Also transmitted is the report of the Department of State concerning the Convention.

This Convention, which is similar to tax treaties between the United States and OECD nations, provides maximum rates of tax to be applied to various types of income and protection from double taxation of income. This Convention also provides for resolution of disputes and sets forth rules making its benefits unavailable to residents who are engaged in treaty-shopping or with respect to certain abusive transactions.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to this Convention and that the Senate give its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 13, 1999.

**Letter to Members of Congress on
Proposed Campaign Finance Reform
Legislation**

September 13, 1999

Dear _____:

This week, the House of Representatives will have an historic opportunity to strengthen our democracy when it considers legislation to reform our campaign finance system. I write to you today to urge the passage of the bipartisan campaign finance reform bill offered by Representatives Christopher Shays and Martin Meehan.

The Shays-Meehan legislation represents real, comprehensive reform. It would ban the raising of unregulated "soft money" by both

parties, address backdoor campaign spending by outside organizations, and strengthen public disclosure. It would revitalize the political process by curbing the role of special interests, giving voters a louder voice, and treating incumbents and challengers of both parties fairly.

For nearly four years I have challenged Congress to pass the Shays-Meehan bill. As you know, it was approved by the House last year, only to be blocked by a minority of the Senate. Today, I ask Members of the House to pass it—without unnecessary amendments that would undermine its intent and reach.

We have had enough talk about reform; the House of Representatives now has a rare and fleeting opportunity to act. The American people know the system needs to be fixed—but many have come to doubt Congress's will to fix it. I urge you to make this the year that Congress proves the cynics wrong, and passes bipartisan, comprehensive campaign finance reform.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: Letters were sent to every Member of the House of Representatives.

**Remarks on Departure From
Auckland and an Exchange With
Reporters**

September 14, 1999

APEC Summit

The President. Good morning. I believe we've had a very successful meeting here with our Asia-Pacific partners. I want to begin by thanking Prime Minister Shipley and the people of Auckland and New Zealand for giving us quite a wonderful visit to a place that most of us have never been before.

Our 19 APEC members pledged to strengthen the world economy and advance our common prosperity. We also came together on East Timor. We unanimously resolved to strengthen the world trading system by opening more markets and agriculture services and industrial products. In November we'll go to Seattle to launch a new world

trade round, determined to make this APEC agenda the world's agenda.

We can make trade even more beneficial if China joins the WTO on commercially viable terms. I had a good meeting here with President Jiang, resuming progress in our relationship on issues from the WTO to security matters like preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Our negotiators have now resumed substantive WTO talks.

APEC's members also reaffirmed the importance of continuing reforms in the global financial system. Asia's recovery is clearly underway. We want to keep it going, and to do so, we have to keep up the pace of reform.

At the same time, we stood together against the violence in East Timor. Indonesia's leaders agreed to reverse course. Now we and our partners are working rapidly to deploy an effective international security force to protect the people as they make their transition to independence. Again, let me say how grateful I am for the leadership of Australia and New Zealand in this endeavor.

This will be overwhelmingly an Asian force. But the United States is ready to provide airlift, communications, intelligence, and related capabilities. We are working out the details in consultation with Congress.

I hope the force can be ready to deploy within days. We are working with the U.N. today to bring that about. Until the international peacekeeping force deploys, it is essential that Indonesia works to prevent further violence. It must facilitate efforts to quickly bring humanitarian assistance to the people who have suffered so very greatly. The United Nations is ready to deliver food and medical supplies.

Let me say, finally, this week we made progress on another crucial security issue, building peace and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula. Following talks in Berlin, we understand and expect that North Korea will refrain from testing long-range missiles of any kind, while our discussions continue. It's an important initial step in addressing our concerns about North Korea's missile program.

We're, in turn, considering measures to ease sanctions and move toward normalizing economic relations with North Korea. The

work we've done in the past few days will help to build a more secure, more prosperous, more integrated Asia-Pacific region. It will give our citizens, all our citizens, all the way from New Zealand back to Washington, better lives in the 21st century.

Thank you very much.

Congressional Support for East Timor

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. Well, I have only made about 10 calls, but of course, Secretary Cohen and Mr. Podesta have been back there, and they've been talking to more. My sense is that the Congress, even though we are heavily committed in the Balkans and elsewhere, will support a mission if we are there in a clearly supportive capacity, if we're talking about a few hundred people, not thousands of people on the ground, and the work we've been asked to do is actually work that a mission like this would need America to do—the airlift, some of the internal transportation, the communications, the intelligence, some of the engineering work. These are things that, because of the size of our military, we are uniquely positioned to do.

And I stopped off in Hawaii, talked to Admiral Blair, our commander in chief in the Pacific, and he had been having very detailed conversations with the Australians. That's what we understand they're asking for. It would be a matter of a few hundred people. And I think we could do that.

Indonesian Response to United Nations

Q. Mr. President, how much trouble are the Indonesians making for the Security Council about the Australians leading—[inaudible]?

The President. Well, I know there was a statement yesterday by an Indonesian official, but we do not understand that to be the official position. So, so far, no trouble has been made. I hope that there won't be any. I think that we have tried to make it clear that we would welcome the cooperation with the Indonesian forces if they would work with us—they would be in a position to do some things there to help facilitate this mission. But I do not believe they should be

able to dictate the composition of it once having acknowledged that the United Nations should come in.

Australian Leadership in East Timor

Q. Is Australia's leadership nonnegotiable—[inaudible]?

The President. Well, that's, of course, for the U.N. to decide, but as far as I'm concerned, I'm quite comfortable with it and strongly supportive of it. Keep in mind, they are willing to provide what, in all probability, will be more than half of the total force needed.

We have a high regard for their abilities. We train with them. We work with them. We know that they can do this job, and in so doing, they make it possible for large numbers of other nations to participate who can make only more modest contributions. It's easier for New Zealand, for Malaysia, for the Philippines, for Korea, for any number of other countries to send in troops according to their ability to do it, knowing that there will be a large and very well-trained and led anchor force there. So the Australian commitment makes possible the effective commitments of a lot of other countries, just as our airlift capacity does.

So I would hope we can stick with it, and I think we will. I feel good about it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:55 a.m. at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Jennifer Shipley of New Zealand; and President Jiang Zemin of China.

Exchange With Reporters Following a Round of Golf in Queenstown, New Zealand September 14, 1999

Q. How's your golf game today, Mr. President? Did it improve as you went along?

The President. It got a lot better. It had nowhere to go but up when I started. No, we did better, and we won the match, thanks mostly to my partner here. But we did okay. We played the way partners should play. When I had a good score, he didn't; when he had a good score, I didn't play good. We wasted no shots.

Burton Shipley. The President suggested at one stage that we were playing very good brother-in-law golf. I thought the line was very good.

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. We did, we actually played the pro and his partner, and we won, and they bought me a Diet Coke. It was a big stake here; it was great.

Q. [Inaudible]—the last hole?

The President. No, we won that, too. All four of us parred all four holes the second time we played.

Mr. Shipley. But we got a couple more strokes.

Situation in East Timor

Q. Are you satisfied with how the talks went in New York today?

The President. What?

Q. It seemed to be positive. It seemed that the Indonesians signed on to what the United States wants.

The President. It appears so. You know, the initial report I got was quite good, but I want to get a detailed briefing about exactly where we are. I think the important thing is to get the force mobilized, get it in in a hurry, and also get the humanitarian aid out there. There are a lot of people still actually in East Timor who need food and supplies, so we've got a lot of work to do.

Hurricane Floyd

Q. What have you heard about the hurricane?

Q. Are you monitoring Hurricane Floyd?

The President. Yes. I talked to Mr. Witt this morning, and he told me he would call me back in about 12, 14 hours and let me know where it was. I've not talked to him since I got up this morning.

Q. It sounds like a monster storm, sir.

The President. Yes, he said it's going to be huge. And we didn't know at the time how many States would be hit for sure. But all the experts think it's going to be a very, very large storm. We'll just have to hope for the best.

President's Visit

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. It's fabulous; it's really quite a wonderful course. It's an honest

course. It's a good course. It plays hard, but it's an honest course.

Q. What do you think of Queenstown?

The President. I wish I had weeks to spend here. You know, when we were coming in the airplane, landing, everybody on our plane was just gasping when we saw the landscape. It's just so beautiful. You're all very fortunate.

Q. When are you coming back, Mr. President?

The President. How about next week? [Laughter]

Round of Golf

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. This guy hits the ball further than any person his age I've ever played with, including a lot of the pros I've played—water treatment.

Mr. Shipley. Just not as straight as the pros.

The President. And it's only because his public service has kept him from playing every day that he's not a scratch golfer.

Chelsea Clinton

Q. What did Chelsea do today?

The President. I think she looked around here and went running. I don't think she went caving or anything as great as yesterday.

NOTE: The exchange began at 6:41 p.m. at the Millbrook Resort. In his remarks, the President referred to his golf opponents, club pro John Griffin and publisher Mike Robson. Burton Shipley is the husband of Prime Minister Jennifer Shipley of New Zealand. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Proclamation 7220—National Hispanic Heritage Month, 1999

September 14, 1999

By the President of the United States
of America

A Proclamation

During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we reflect on the history of a people who were part of this land long before the birth of the United States. Hispanics were among the earliest European settlers in the

New World, and Hispanics as a people—like their many cultures—share a rich history and great diversity. Hispanic Americans have roots in Europe, Africa, and South and Central America and close cultural ties to Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, South America, and Spain. This diversity has brought variety and richness to the mosaic that is America and has strengthened our national character with invaluable perspective, experiences, and values.

Through the years, Hispanic Americans have played an integral role in our Nation's success in science, the arts, business, government, and every other field of endeavor, and their talent, creativity, and achievements continue to energize our national life. For example, Hispanic Americans serve as NASA astronauts, including Dr. Ellen Ochoa, the first Hispanic woman in space. Mario Molina of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology shared a Nobel Prize in chemistry for research that raised awareness of the threat that chlorofluorocarbons pose to the earth's protective ozone layer. Cuban-American writer Oscar Hijuelos earned a Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

The achievements of today's Hispanic Americans build upon a long tradition of contributions by Hispanics in many varied fields. Before Dr. Ochoa and other Hispanic Americans began to explore the frontiers of space, Hernando de Soto and Francisco Vásquez de Coronado ventured into the vast uncharted land of the New World. A thousand years before Mario Molina calculated the effects of human actions on the atmosphere, Mayan priests accurately predicted solar and lunar eclipses. And before Oscar Hijuelos described a Cuban family's emigration to 1940s America, Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra gave us the classic adventures of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza.

Today, people of Hispanic heritage are an increasingly important and growing segment of our Nation's population. Studies show that, in just a few years, Hispanics will form the largest minority group in the United States. In little more than a decade, Hispanic Americans will wield buying power of nearly \$1 trillion per year. And by the middle of the next century, if population trends continue, almost one-fourth of our population

will be Spanish-speaking. The success of these citizens is vital to our continued national prosperity, and we must ensure that they are empowered with the tools and opportunities they need to thrive in the next century.

That is why my Administration has worked to widen the circle of economic opportunity, enforce our civil rights laws, invest in health and education, and promote racial reconciliation. We have launched a major initiative to mobilize the resources and expertise of the Federal Government, the private sector, and local communities to end racial and ethnic disparities in health conditions and health care. We established the first-ever Office of Minority Health Research and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. We also have sought to expand our Hispanic Education Action Plan with an additional \$480 million for improving educational programs and institutions serving high concentrations of Hispanic students. We cannot seize the enormous opportunities of the 21st century if a large percentage of our children lack the skills and knowledge they need to reach their full potential.

In honor of the many contributions that Hispanic Americans have made and continue to make to our Nation and our culture, the Congress, by Public Law 100-402, has authorized and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating September 15 through October 15 as "National Hispanic Heritage Month."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15, 1999, as National Hispanic Heritage Month. I call upon government officials, educators, and the people of the United States to honor this observance with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs, and I encourage all Americans to rededicate themselves to the pursuit of equality.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 16, 1999]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on September 17.

Memorandum on the Working Group on International Energy *September 14, 1999*

Memorandum for the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology

Subject: Working Group on International Energy

The report of the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), *Powerful Partnerships: The Federal Role in International Cooperation on Energy Innovation*, will help advance my Administration's goals for addressing energy-linked economic, environmental, and security challenges. As you point out in the synthesis of the report, our window of opportunity for moving the world off of its current energy trajectory—which entails higher consumer costs, greater regional pollution, more pronounced climate disruption, and increasing risks to energy security—is closing fast. Thus, we should act expeditiously on PCAST's recommendations for strengthening capacities for energy technology innovation, promoting technologies to limit energy demand and for a cleaner energy supply, and improving management of the Federal international energy research and development portfolio.

As a first step, I direct you to form a working group on international energy research, development, demonstration, and deployment under the National Science and Technology Council, as recommended by PCAST. The working group should build on the PCAST report and assess the portfolio of programs underway in the Federal agencies and develop a strategic vision, including budget recommendations that can be considered in agency requests for FY 2001.

Please commend John Holdren, the members of his panel, and all of PCAST for its fine report on this important matter.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 15.

Remarks to the People of New Zealand in Christchurch, New Zealand

September 15, 1999

Thank you very much. Good afternoon. Prime Minister Shipley, Burton and Anna and Ben; and Sir Edmund Hillary and Lady Hillary; Ambassadors Beeman and Bolger, and their wives; to Mayor Moore: Dr. Erb, Dr. Benton, Mr. Mace, Dr. Colwell; to all of those who have made our visit here so memorable: Let me begin on behalf of my family and my party by thanking the officials and the people of New Zealand for giving us 5 absolutely glorious days in one of the most beautiful places on Earth. We are very grateful.

Hurricane Floyd

I hope you will all indulge me just one moment. This is my only chance to speak not only to you but to the people of the United States today. And since we're here to talk about the weather, you should know that my country is facing one of the most serious hurricanes ever to threaten the United States, if the predictions of its force and scope hold true.

This morning I signed an emergency declaration for the States of Florida and Georgia to provide for assistance for emergency protective and preventive measures. I have been in close contact with our Vice President, Al Gore, and our Director of Emergency Management, James Lee Witt. They are working around the clock to prepare for the storm. I ask all of you here to remember my fellow Americans, and after we finish the state dinner tonight, I am going to fly home, and we will make the best job of it we can.

Antarctica and Climate Change

Let me say I am particularly honored to be here with Sir Edmund Hillary, referred to in our family as my second favorite Hillary. [Laughter] I read that when Sir Edmund turned 50 he resolved to do three things: to build a house on the cliffs above the Tasman Sea; to become a better skier; to do a grand

traverse up the peaks of Mt. Cook. I'm wondering what he resolved to do when he turned 80. I hear the All Blacks may have a new fullback. [Laughter] I wish you a happy 80th birthday, sir, and I wish all of us might lead lives half so full and productive as yours.

I come here to this beautiful city and to this place to deepen a partnership between the United States and New Zealand that is already long and strong. In this century, young Americans and New Zealanders have fought again and again side by side to turn back tyranny and to defend democracy. We have worked together on peacekeeping missions. We have stood together for expanded opportunity for our people through trade. We even let you borrow the America's Cup from time to time. [Laughter] We hope to reverse our generosity shortly. [Laughter] We are grateful for your friendship, and we thank you for it.

This magnificent center stands as a symbol of what we can accomplish when we work together, and I would argue is a symbol of what will be most important about our co-operation in the 21st century.

You heard Sir Edmund talk about his trip across Antarctica. When he started it, some people called it the last great journey on Earth. As I was reading about it, I understand that he actually overheard one farmer ask another, "that there Antarctica, how many sheep do they run to the acre?" [Laughter]

But America believed in his mission and has long been fascinated with Antarctica. Way back in 1820, Nathaniel Brown Palmer was one of the first people to sight it. A few years later, an American exploring expedition mapped more than 1,500 miles of the Antarctic coast, ending a centuries-old debate over whether a big land mass, in fact, existed around the South Pole.

Forty years ago, inspired in part by Sir Edmund's expedition, the United States convened a meeting in Washington to preserve the Antarctic forever as a haven for peace and scientific cooperation. Today, we can all be proud that not a single provision of the Antarctic Treaty has ever been violated. Forty-three nations, representing two-thirds of the world's population, adhere to the treaty. And the Antarctic is what it should be,

a treasure held in trust for every person on the planet.

We are working together to preserve the pristine waters surrounding the continent, and fighting illegal fishing that threatens to destroy species in the southern ocean.

For the United States and New Zealand, our commitments to Antarctica are based right here in Christchurch. Nearly 7 out of 10 United States expeditions to the Antarctic are staged from here. And let me say, the only disappointment I have about this trip is that I didn't stage an expedition from here. *[Laughter]* So I want you to know, I expect that you will let me come back one more time, so I can fulfill my lifelong desire to go to Antarctica.

I think, of all the work being done here, perhaps the most important to us and to the young people here, particularly, over the next 20 years will be the work that tells us about the nature of climate change and what it is doing to the ice cap here, to the water levels around the world, and to the way of life that we want for our children and our grandchildren.

The overwhelming consensus of world scientific opinion is that greenhouse gases from human activity are raising the Earth's temperature in a rapid and unsustainable way. The 5 warmest years since the 15th century have all been in the 1990's; 1998 was the warmest year ever recorded, eclipsing the record set just the year before, in 1997.

Unless we change course, most scientists believe the seas will rise so high they will swallow whole islands and coastal areas. Storms, like hurricanes—and droughts—both will intensify. Diseases like malaria will be borne by mosquitoes to higher and higher altitudes, and across borders, threatening more lives, a phenomenon we already see today in Africa.

A few years ago, hikers discovered a 5,000-year-old man in the Italian Alps. You might think someone would have noticed him before. They didn't because the ice hadn't melted where he was before—in 5,000 years. If the same thing were to happen to the west Antarctic ice sheet, God forbid—it's a remote threat now, but it could occur one day—and if it did, sea levels worldwide would rise by as much as 20 feet. If that happens, not even

Augie Auer will be able to save us from the weather. *[Laughter]* Now, I want you to laugh about it because I figure when people laugh, they listen. But this is a very serious thing.

In 1992, the nations of the world began to address this challenge at the Earth Summit in Rio. Five years later, 150 nations made more progress toward that goal in Kyoto, Japan. But we still have so much more to do. America and New Zealand, in no small measure because of our understanding, which the Prime Minister so eloquently articulated a few moments ago, because of our understanding of the significance of Antarctica and the work we have done here to make this a refuge of scientific inquiry, have special responsibilities in this area.

Of course, we have a big responsibility because America produces more greenhouse gases than any other country in the world. I have offered an aggressive program to reduce that production in every area. We are also mindful that emissions are growing in the developing world even more rapidly than in the developed world, and we have a responsibility there.

But I wanted to say today—and if you don't remember anything else I say, I hope you will remember this—the largest obstacle to meeting the challenge of climate change is not the huge array of wealthy vested interests and the tens of thousands of ordinary people around the world who work in the oil and the coal industries, the burning of which produce these greenhouse gases. The largest obstacle is the continued clinging of people in wealthy countries and developing countries to a big idea that is no longer true, the idea that the only way a country can become wealthy and remain wealthy is to have the patterns of energy use that brought us the industrial age. In other words, if you're not burning more oil and coal this year than you were last year, you're not getting richer; you're not creating more jobs; you're not lifting more children out of poverty. That is no longer true.

We now know that technologies that permit breathtaking advances in energy conservation and the use of alternative forms of energy make it possible to grow the economy faster while healing the environment and

that—thank God—it is no longer necessary to burn up the atmosphere to create economic opportunity.

We have somehow got to convince a critical mass of decisionmakers and ordinary citizens in every nation of the world that that is true. It will help to concentrate their attention if the people who know about Antarctica can illustrate, year-in and year-out, in graphic terms, the consequences of ignoring climate change and global warming.

We are committed to doing more at home and to do more to help developing nations bring on these technologies, so they can improve living standards and improve the environment. We can do this. We can do it in the same way that progress is being made in dealing with the ozone layer. Consider that example, something again which we know more about, thanks to the work of scientists here.

Because of chemicals we produced and released into the atmosphere over the past 50 years, every spring a hole appears in the ozone layer above Antarctica. You already heard, and you know more about it than any country in the world, about the unhealthy levels of ultraviolet radiation which pass through. Now, every Kiwi school child who has participated in Block Day knows what it means, why you have to have sunscreen and a hat.

But in 1987, the international community came together in Montreal and agreed to stop the use of chemicals that deplete the ozone layer. Experts tell us if we keep going the ozone hole will shrink, and by the middle of the next century, the ozone hole could actually close, so that, miracle of miracles, we would have a problem created by people, solved by people and their development. This is the sort of thing we have to do with climate change, and the stakes are even higher.

The Antarctic is a great cooling tower for our planet, a great learning tower for our planet's scientists. What happens to it will determine weather all over the globe and will determine the patterns of life of the children here in this audience and certainly of their children and grandchildren. It is a bridge to our future and a window on our past.

Right now, the ice is 2 miles thick and goes back more than 400,000 years. By studying

the patterns of the past, scientists will be able to tell us what will likely happen in the future and how we are changing the future from the past based on what we are doing.

So much of what we know today from global climate patterns comes also from satellite images. But scientists have never had detailed images of key parts of the Antarctic to work with until today. So I wanted to come here with one small contribution to the marvelous work that all of our people are doing here. Today America is releasing once classified satellite images of the Antarctic's unique dry valleys. The pictures provide two sets of images taken 10 years apart and provides some of the most detailed and important information we've ever had on these ecological treasures. Last month Vice President Gore did the same thing for the Arctic. Both these releases will help scientists understand changes taking place at the poles and help us take another step toward meeting the challenge of a warming planet.

This is a special challenge for our young people. We have used the Internet, through an initiative called the Globe program, to teach students in more than 50 countries that a grasp of science and ecology is the first step toward a cleaner world. I am pleased that, working with Prime Minister Shipley, we are also going to establish a new Globe program for children right here in New Zealand.

When Sir Edmund Hillary made his trek, the Antarctic was the last new place humanity looked before turning its attention to the stars. In less than 4 months, all humanity will be looking forward to the promise of a new century and a new millennium. When the dawn breaks on January 1st, the international timeline tells us that New Zealand literally will lead the world into a new age.

Let us vow, in this place of first light, to act in the spirit of the Antarctic Treaty, to conquer the new challenges that face us in the new millennium. Let us work with the determination of Sir Edmund Hillary to strengthen our partnership, to keep our air and water clean and our future alive for our children. We owe it to the children of New Zealand, the children of the United States, and the children of the world. And we can do it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:38 p.m. in the courtyard at the International Antarctic Centre. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Jennifer Shipley, her husband, Burton, and their children, Anna and Ben; Sir Edmund Hillary, polar explorer and first man to climb Mount Everest, and his wife, June; U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand Josiah H. Beeman, and his wife Susan; New Zealand Ambassador to the U.S. James B. Bolger, and his wife, Joan; Mayor Gary Moore of Christchurch; Karl A. Erb, Director, Office of Polar Programs, and Rita R. Colwell, Director, National Science Foundation; Richard Benton, General Manager, Visitor Centre, International Antarctic Centre; Christopher Mace, Chairman, Antarctic New Zealand; and New Zealand weather forecaster Augie Auer.

**The President's News Conference
With Prime Minister Jennifer Shipley
of New Zealand in Christchurch**

September 15, 1999

Prime Minister Shipley. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm pleased to report that we have held very successful talks this afternoon in Christchurch. These talks have ranged over many issues, regional issues—urgent regional issues—international issues and, of course, bilateral issues. I view them as extraordinarily satisfactory from New Zealand's point of view.

For me, President Clinton's visit to New Zealand has been an opportunity for this region to make real progress on pressing international issues. This afternoon we were able to discuss the matter of East Timor, and I was able to thank the President for his leadership while in this country in helping to mobilize international support and opinion for restoring order and relieving the humanitarian crisis that exists in Timor. The plight of the displaced people in Timor has and is at the uppermost part of our minds at this time.

New Zealand is making urgent preparations to contribute our defense force capability and personnel to the U.N. force in East Timor. We appreciated the opportunity this afternoon to review the most recent developments in New York, and the President was able to give us his most recent advice.

I would also like to take this opportunity while we're here to publicly say how much we appreciate the leadership role that Australia is playing at this present time in evacuating the refugees from East Timor and also for providing such a major contribution to the U.N. force.

New Zealand's Navy and Air Force are already on hand, working with the Australians. The New Zealand Cabinet will hold a special meeting tomorrow afternoon to review the latest developments and also to consider how and when we will deploy our troops to the area, if requested by the U.N. I've also asked that Parliament be called together on Friday, so that this important matter can be discussed.

In our discussions with the President, we were able to consider where our current position on defense force personnel and our defense relationship was up to. I valued the opportunity for that discussion to take place, and I believe that good progress has been made.

We reviewed the outlook for global trade. I think we felt that there was a real satisfaction in the achievements that the APEC meeting this week were able to make. There has been a clear sign that there is a commitment from the APEC region to see the launch of a highly successful WTO round, and the Auckland Challenge laid down the challenge to the rest of the world to come to the talks in Seattle with something decisive and clear to put on the table.

As you are aware, APEC represents half of the world's population and half of the world's economy. New Zealand particularly values free and open trade, and we believe that strong markets are the most able way in which we can deliver a social dividend to the people within our respective economies.

Mr. President, we wish you well in the preparations for the WTO round. It is a very important next step in achieving free and open trade globally, and many people depend on success being achieved in these talks.

Finally, on the bilateral issue, I believe that the relationship between the New Zealand Government and the U.S. is in very good heart. There are so many shared values which see us working together across such areas of

the environment, world trade, peacekeeping, and, of course, the promotion of human rights.

We also remain committed to working closely together on any trade matters between us that have some difficulties, such as the safeguard action on our lamb exports to the U.S. via the mechanism that's available to us through the WTO. That is, of course, how good friends should work these things through, and that is how it will remain in New Zealand.

Mr. President, it's been a real pleasure and a privilege to have you in our country. Your own warmth has won the hearts of most New Zealanders, and we want to thank you for your leadership on policy issues that have seen very effective steps forward this week on pressing international issues of our time.

I now invite you to make some comments.

President Clinton. Thank you, Prime Minister. Let me begin by thanking you, your Government, and the people of New Zealand for the wonderful welcome that I and my family and our entire delegation have received. I also am very grateful for the tremendous leadership that you gave to the APEC summit. It was quite a success, and, I think, thanks in no small measure to your efforts.

As you mentioned, we have a lot of shared values, and I believe that the world is moving toward a consensus around freer and more open trade but coupled with policies that leave no one behind, that invest in the education and health care and empowerment of people, that protect the economy while growing the environment, that promote democracy and human rights.

As we see, however, in East Timor, there's one thing to say that there is such consensus and quite another to turn it into reality. We are working together to address the urgent and difficult tasks there. The people are still vulnerable to attack. Many have fled their homes; many are short of food, not only those who have left the country but those who are displaced within East Timor.

As all of you know, the Security Council is now moving on a resolution that would provide a strong mandate for an effective international security force. I expect it to be approved. Meanwhile, we continue to re-

ceive reports of violence and intimidation, which Indonesia has a responsibility to prevent. And also, Indonesia has a responsibility to allow relief organizations access to the refugees now.

Now, we know that this international peacekeeping force will face some stiff challenges. But we have affirmed together that we will meet those challenges. With our support, the people of East Timor can have the independence and the democracy they have voted for. By fostering stability there and in helping Indonesia to resume its progress in undergoing the profound transitions at work there, we can make our whole community of nations more secure.

Let me say I'm very proud that the United States and New Zealand will be standing together to defend freedom and human rights once again. We will participate together in the force. As I told the Prime Minister earlier, based on our experience elsewhere, I think it is quite important that Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the other countries that will be participating, prepare through joint exercises that will help us to get ready to do what has to be done together in East Timor.

On trade, in addition to what the Prime Minister has said about APEC, which we have said over and over and over again, which is that we're pleased with the agenda we embraced and we hope it will be embraced at the WTO ministerial in Seattle, I also want to say that I'm very excited that the whole world will soon benefit from the leadership of New Zealand's Mike Moore at the WTO.

If we can keep pushing for freer and more open trade, if we can make that embrace at the WTO ministerial, once again we will see in the example of New Zealand how a small country can lead by the power of its example.

Again, Madam Prime Minister, thank you for your hospitality, your leadership, and for all that your country is doing to build a better world. Thank you.

Prime Minister Shipley. There are to be a couple of questions either side, and we'll take them side by side.

New Zealand-U.S. Military Exercises

Q. Mr. President, could I just ask you, is there any possibility of the United States allowing the resumption of military exercises with New Zealand, given that we're currently barred from those? And if not, isn't that an anomaly when New Zealand works so closely with the United States in areas such as Iraq and the Gulf and also in East Timor?

President Clinton. Well, I think we should do exercises in the specific context of East Timor. That's what I just said. And we will do—if I have anything to say about it, we will, along with the Australians and others have joint exercises as part of our preparation for East Timor.

Q. What about other military exercises?

President Clinton. I would deal with them on a case by case basis.

Terry [Terence Hunt, Associated Press].

Hurricane Floyd

Q. Mr. President, you spoke earlier today about Floyd being one of the most serious hurricanes ever to threaten the United States. You've been briefed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Can you tell us what they've told you and what everybody can expect? And sir, are you satisfied that Federal and State agencies have done everything possible in the way of mobilizing personnel and equipment?

President Clinton. Well, I think we've done everything we know to do. Let me say, I just got off the phone with Dan Goldin, our NASA Administrator, and we were going over all that has been done in the event Floyd strikes Cape Canaveral. And as I'm sure you all know now, there are essentially two problems that literally threaten our space program. One is that we have our space shuttles in those big silos that are protected, and they're built to withstand 125 miles an hour winds. Right now, Floyd is coming in at about 145 miles an hour. Even if they withstand, which I think there's a good chance they will, the other thing we had to worry about is the flooding. We can get several feet of floodwaters in the Cape Canaveral area. And the NASA people have been working furiously to lift everything they can possibly lift as high as they can possibly lift it.

As you know, a lot of individual citizens have been boarding up their homes. There have been a lot of relocation, a lot of evacuation. We have granted preemptive emergency declarations, which is virtually unheard of. I think it was absolutely the right thing to do. The Governors of Florida and Georgia were strongly for it; I think South Carolina will join.

All I can tell you now, Terry, is I think we have to wait and see what happens. We have taken every step that I am aware of we can take. I had a long talk with the Vice President and James Lee Witt today; they're on top of it.

The key will be, I think, when this storm hits—and it won't be long now—where does it come in? Will it come in as far south as Cape Canaveral and move up, or will it hit further north? How long will it last? And we'll just have to keep working, and things may occur as it goes on. But I think there's been a truly extraordinary effort to prepare for this by State and local and national officials. We've worked together; we've done the best we could.

Situation in East Timor

Q. Mr. President, in relation to East Timor, in order to make sure this is not another Rwanda, how can we shortcut negotiations in New York to make sure humanitarian aid gets to East Timor immediately?

President Clinton. Well, let me say, I think we're moving as fast as possible. And the Prime Minister and I talked—we would like to see the first contingent of troops there in a matter of a couple of days, as soon as the resolution passes. And we think that will happen tomorrow, New York time.

You know, we know the Australians are ready to go. We can be ready to go, and we have airlift, and we can bring in others who have made their commitments. So I don't think you have to worry about it. Also—I don't mean there won't be more people killed and more terrible things happen, but what happened in Rwanda was—first, there won't be another 100 days, and not everybody has a machete. So there may be some terrible things happen, but we are moving as fast as we can.

Now, the other thing I would say, though, to make the point you made, it's not just a question of stopping the violence—we've got to get the NGO's and others in there who can provide humanitarian relief to people who are within the country. There are a lot of displaced persons who did not leave East Timor. And we know it, we know what we have to do. All I can tell you is, we'll do the best we can.

Lori [Lori Santos, United Press International].

Q. Sir, you said that Indonesia had the responsibility to prevent the systematic killing. What would you like to see them do, and why haven't they stepped up to the plate?

President Clinton. Well, the why—frankly, I don't think we're going to know that for a while, until we get the people on the ground, and people begin to talk. You know, it's not clear whether some elements of the military were encouraging what has happened or whether they felt they couldn't stop it. It's not clear what the designs were. There are a lot of things about that we don't know. A few days ago I stopped worrying about why and started worrying about how to change it. So, I don't know.

What I would like them to do, now that they have asked the United Nations to come in, is simply to stop the most egregious forms of violence and let the NGO's in to provide humanitarian relief right now. Within—it may become a moot point within 72 to 96 hours. But in 2 or 3 days, a lot of people could die, and they don't have to die if they work with us.

Prime Minister Shipley. From the New Zealand side.

New Zealand-U.S. Trade

Q. Mr. President, we know that the United States are the champions of free trade, and yet, recently tariffs were put on our lamb imports to the United States. How do you equate one with the other? And can you give us your views on P5?

President Clinton. Yes. First, we are a champion of free trade. During the recent Asian financial crisis, when we lost huge agricultural and other markets, we kept our markets open and sustained the largest trade deficits in our history, while we were running

the largest budget surpluses in our history, two things which don't normally go together.

I said in the meeting that during this period we bought 10 times as much steel from Japan and Russia as all of Europe did.

Now, I think you understand, in the American system, we have an International Trade Commission. People can bring complaints before it. The Commission makes a ruling. They made a recommendation. After they made a recommendation for some action in the case of the lamb, the Prime Minister called me; I called her back. She expressed some—obviously, the concerns of New Zealand. I did as much as I could to take those into account, including calling for a 3- rather than a 4-year period of action and saying that I would review it in the middle of the time-frame. So I believe what I did was WTO-consistent, and I believe that what I did was appropriate, given the recommendation I was made under our laws, just like I think you have a perfect right to appeal the decision. And if I were in your position, that's exactly what I'd do.

Q. And your view on P5?

President Clinton. On P5, I think it's a very interesting idea. I have asked the Prime Minister to give me 10 to 14 days to go home, talk to all of our people about it, have a chance to think it through. I had hoped to have a well-formulated position by the time I got here. But as you know, all of us have been completely swamped by developments in East Timor, and we honestly haven't had the time to work it through. So I told her I'd get back to her in a couple of weeks, and I will.

Prime Minister Shipley. Can I just comment on the issue of lamb, briefly, before the next question? Perhaps the last question needs to be taken. We have fed the President as much fine New Zealand lamb as we could possibly fit in. And—[laughter]—

President Clinton. And I've eaten it all. Not so much as a scrap has escaped my attention. [Laughter]

Prime Minister Shipley. This is an issue that New Zealand felt keenly. The WTO is the right forum. We will pursue that actively. But it does not spill over into what we view as not only a very valuable market for New

Zealand agricultural exports but also a very warm relationship.

China-U.S. Trade

Q. [*Inaudible*—WTO, are the U.S.-China trade talks proving more difficult than you had hoped? When and where will the next round of talks take place? And are you disappointed that there hasn't been a breakthrough?

President Clinton. Well, first of all, I think, on balance, this has been quite a good week for the United States in Asia, in the Asia-Pacific region. I did have a good meeting with President Jiang; we talked about things other than trade. One of our common interests, North Korea and avoiding the missile launch, appears to be headed in the right direction. We had progress in East Timor, and with the Prime Minister's leadership, we made the right commitments here at APEC. So I think this is good.

Now, on the Chinese-WTO talks, we have reengaged, and each side will now do whatever it thinks is right. You know, I don't totally control the timetable there, but I'm neither optimistic nor pessimistic about it. I am satisfied that we have reengaged, and we will do the best we can to just deal with this on the merits. We only had one or two issues before us when we couldn't quite get there in Washington. I still think it would be a better thing for China and a better thing for the world if they were in the WTO, but that is, of course, ultimately a decision that they have to make, not me. But we're talking; we're working; and I feel good about it.

Prime Minister Shipley. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's 180th news conference began at 3:30 p.m. in the courtyard at the Sign of the Takahe, a historic landmark and restaurant. In his remarks, he referred to Mike Moore, Director General, World Trade Organization; Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida; Gov. Roy Barnes of Georgia; and President Jiang Zemin of China. The President also referred to P5, Pacific 5, a proposed free trade area, which would include Australia, Chile, New Zealand, Singapore, and the United States. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this news conference.

Remarks at a State Dinner Hosted by Prime Minister Shipley in Christchurch

September 15, 1999

Thank you very much. Forgive my hoarseness.

First, Prime Minister, to you, your family, your government, and the people of New Zealand, I cannot thank you enough for the wonderful welcome that our party and my family members have received here. I apologize for having to rush home, but all of you know of the great storm that is now hitting the American coast. We had to move over 2.5 million people today in an attempt to minimize the loss of life. So I hope you'll forgive me, but let me say I have had a wonderful time here.

I'm glad that the fashion people approved of the way I wore the beautiful outfit you gave me. [*Laughter*] You know, I've been President 7 years now; I've been all over the world; I've received any number of items of clothing. And when you go to these meetings, very often the people who are there get the native dress, and we wear them. And usually, when I go home, there is someone making fun of how I looked in the dress of whatever country I was. This is the smartest outfit I've ever been given.

In the calendar cycle, we in the Northern Hemisphere are moving in the opposite direction, so we're coming into fall and winter. And if you watch the television, I'll probably be in your outfit several times more before the end of the year.

Let me say from the bottom of my heart, this has been a magical trip. I think every person, when he or she is young, dreams of finding some enchanted place, of beautiful mountains and breathtaking coastline and clear lakes and amazing wildlife, and most people give up on it because they never get to New Zealand. This has been an amazing thing for me and for all of us.

You might be interested to know that on the front page of the Washington Post today, there is a picture of my National Economic Adviser bungee jumping. [*Laughter*] We all had to remind him that he wasn't supposed to be Houdini and slip the cords, you know.

[*Laughter*] And so the whole story was about how much fun we were all having.

I hope that it will also be reported that at this meeting we took a strong stand for freedom and human rights in East Timor, and we are going in there, together with our friends from Australia and others in this region, to try to protect the integrity of the referendum for democracy and independence, and save lives. And I thank New Zealand for its leadership in this cause.

We also stood for the proposition that we can best lift the world's fortune by having more free and fair trade. And that, too, was profoundly important.

We celebrated today our partnership in Antarctic and talked about the importance of Antarctica to our whole future. I have mentioned often that, as all of you know probably, when the new millennium dawns, it will dawn first on New Zealand. I will be proud to cross that bridge into the 21st century with you, knowing that we will be partners for peace and prosperity and a more decent and humane future for all our children. And I thank you for that partnership.

I'd like to ask all of you to join me in a toast to the Prime Minister, to her wonderful husband, to her government, and to the people of New Zealand.

[*At this point, the President offered a toast.*]

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:56 p.m. in a hangar at the Wigram Air Museum. In his remarks, the President referred to Prime Minister Shipley's husband, Burton. The transcript made available by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the Prime Minister. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on House Action on Campaign Finance Reform Legislation

September 15, 1999

I am heartened that the House of Representatives rejected the politics of business as usual by passing real, bipartisan campaign finance reform. Passage of the Shays-Meehan campaign finance reform legislation is

a victory for the American people. Now I urge the Senate Republican leadership to let a majority rule by allowing the Senate to take an up-or-down vote on this historic legislation. The time has come for Congress to redeem the public's faith in the health of our democracy.

Statement on United Nations Security Council Action on East Timor

September 15, 1999

Late last night the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved Resolution 1264, which authorizes a multinational force to restore stability in East Timor, at the invitation of the Indonesian Government. Now we must move with purpose and dispatch to protect the innocent people whose lives are still threatened by those seeking to overturn the results of a fair vote. I welcome the passage of Resolution 1264 and look forward to working with the Government of Australia and others in the international community to put together an effective force. I have just been briefed by Admiral Blair of CINCPAC on our close cooperation with Australia, and I hope the force can deploy in a matter of days. The United States is prepared to contribute to this operation, and we are discussing with our Australian allies and the Congress an appropriate U.S. role.

Remarks on Hurricane Floyd in Honolulu, Hawaii

September 15, 1999

Good morning. Let me first say it's good to be back on American soil after a very good week at the APEC conference in New Zealand. I'm especially anxious to get back to Washington to help to deal with the problems caused by Hurricane Floyd.

I have just had telephone calls with our FEMA Director, James Lee Witt, who has been giving me regular updates. And as you know, the storm currently, in its rain form, is battering Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina, and is targeting the entire Northeast.

These States are now engaged in the largest peacetime evacuation in our history. Yesterday I announced emergency declarations for Florida and Georgia. Today I am issuing similar declarations for South Carolina and North Carolina. I have just spoken with both Governor Hunt of North Carolina and Governor Hodges of South Carolina. I've assured them that we would do everything we can to help them, and they've given me updates on the problems that they expect to encounter, particularly problems for the farmers in those areas, who, if there is severe flooding, could well lose their entire crops.

Let me commend the efforts of FEMA, the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center, and the other Federal agencies and State and local officials who are working around the clock to protect people and property. Their efforts, along with new technologies, have enhanced our ability to predict and prepare for these storms. I hope that every citizen will heed the warnings of the officials and the recommendations to take every action to protect their families and stay out of harm's way. Meanwhile, we will continue to take extraordinary measures to protect lives and property from Hurricane Floyd.

As always, in times of crisis, I am inspired by the way our people come together and work together. It proves that the American spirit is stronger than the force of any storm. We will keep working on this. We're going to leave here in a few minutes, and I'll be getting regular updates. It does seem that the entry point of the storm has moved considerably north from where it was predicted to move. But it is still very, very powerful, and if the present predictions hold clear, there'll be a lot of wind and an enormous amount of water on the coast in South Carolina and North Carolina within the next few hours.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:00 a.m. at Hickam Air Force Base, after crossing the international dateline on his return from New Zealand. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., of North Carolina, and Gov. Jim Hodges of South Carolina.

Proclamation 7221—National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 1999

September 15, 1999

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

As we look back over this century that is swiftly drawing to a close, we recognize that the light of freedom still burns brightly in our world today because of the service and sacrifice of America's men and women in uniform. Through the devastation of two world wars and the brutality of numerous regional conflicts; on peacekeeping assignments and humanitarian missions; from the darkest days of the Cold War to the fall of the Berlin Wall, our Nation's service men and women have fought the forces of tyranny and won signal victories for liberty, human dignity, and the ideals of democracy. On every continent, on the seas, and in the air, gallant young Americans have paid for our future with their own, and many have preserved our freedom by sacrificing their own.

On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we remember with profound gratitude those who suffered captivity and those whose fate remains unknown. Many American POWs were tortured at the hands of their captors; all experienced the ordeal of being held against their will and the anguish of indefinite separation from their families and their homeland.

Today we also honor the valiant families of our fellow citizens who remain missing—families who have had to suffer not only the absence of their loved ones, but also the uncertainty of their fate. As Americans, we remain unshakable in our resolve to achieve the fullest possible accounting of those missing and to strive to bring home the remains of those who have died. Only by doing so can we begin to acknowledge the debt we owe to these patriots and assuage the grief of the families they left behind for the sake of our Nation.

On September 17, 1999, the flag of the National League of Families of American Prisoners of War and Missing in Southeast Asia, a black and white banner symbolizing

America's missing and our unwavering determination to account for them, will be flown over the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Departments of State, Defense, and Veterans Affairs, the Selective Service System Headquarters, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, national cemeteries, and other locations across our country.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 17, 1999, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. I ask all Americans to join me in honoring former American prisoners of war and those whose fate is still undetermined. I also encourage the American people to remember with compassion and concern the courageous families who persevere in their quest to know the fate of their missing loved ones. Finally, I urge 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 fifteenth day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 17, 1999]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on September 20.

Executive Order 13137—Further Amendment to Executive Order 12975, as Amended, National Bioethics Advisory Commission
September 15, 1999

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to more accurately describe the expertise requirements for members selected for the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order 12975,

as amended ("Order"), is further amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 3 of the order shall read as follows: "*Sec. 3. Establishment of National Bioethics Advisory Commission.* There is established in the Department of Health and Human Services a National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC). The NBAC shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.)."

Sec. 2. A new section 4 shall be added to the order to read: "*Sec. 4. Structure.* (a) The National Bioethics Advisory Commission shall be composed of not more than 18 non-government members appointed by the President. At least one member shall be selected from each of the following categories of primary expertise: (1) philosophy/theology; (2) social/behavioral science; (3) law; (4) medicine/allied health professions; and (5) biological research. At least three members shall be selected from the general public, bringing to the Commission expertise other than that listed. The membership shall be approximately evenly balanced between scientists and non-scientists. Close attention will be given to equitable geographic distribution and to ethnic and gender representation.

(b) Members of the Commission will serve for terms of 2 years and may continue to serve after the expiration of their term until a successor is appointed. A member appointed to fill an unexpired term will be appointed to the remainder of such term.

(c) The President shall designate a Chairperson from among the members of the NBAC."

Sec. 3. (a) "[S]ection 5" in the third sentence of section 1(b) of the order shall be deleted and "section 6" shall be inserted in lieu thereof.

(b) Current sections 4 through 7 of Executive Order 12975 shall be renumbered sections 5 through 8.

(c) New section 8(b) is amended by deleting "October 3, 1999" and inserting "October 3, 2001" in lieu thereof.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 15, 1999.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 17, 1999]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 16, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 20.

Remarks on Departure for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and an Exchange With Reporters

September 16, 1999

The President. Before I depart for the FEMA Operations Center, I'd like to say just a few words about East Timor and the terrible murders in Texas last night.

East Timor

First, I'm pleased that the U.N. Security Council has approved the creation of a multinational force to be led by Australia, to deploy as soon as possible to end violence, restore order, and support the results of the August 30 referendum, where the people of East Timor voted overwhelmingly for independence.

After consulting closely with Congress and with the Government of Australia on the best way for the United States to support this operation, and on the recommendation of Secretary Cohen and my national security team, I have decided to contribute to the force in a limited but essential way, including communications and logistical aid, intelligence, air lifts of personnel and material, and coordination of the humanitarian response to the tragedy.

We will deploy about 200 people, about half of whom will serve on the ground in East Timor. In addition, elements of the Pacific Fleet will provide support. I am especially encouraged that Asian nations will be taking the primary responsibility. The overall force will contain about 7,500 people, roughly half will be Australian, and I understand that Thailand and many other Asian nations will contribute, as well as governments from outside the region.

This mission is in America's interest for several reasons. Indonesia's future is important to us, not only because of its resources

and its sea lanes but for its potential as a leader in the region and the world. It is the fourth most populous nation in the world; the largest Muslim nation in the world. All Asians and Americans have an interest in a stable, democratic, prosperous Indonesia.

Our fundamental values are also at stake in East Timor. The election on August 30th was conducted fairly, under the leadership of the U.N., with the agreement of the Indonesian Government. It produced a clear mandate for independence. The violence since is abhorrent to all of us who care about human dignity and democracy.

Of course, on any mission like this, there are dangers and risks of casualties. There remains a great deal of work ahead, but this force is well equipped for the job, and it is a job that is in the interests of peace and stability.

Wedgewood Baptist Church Attack

Last night, in the Wedgewood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, during a prayer service for teenagers, a gunman killed seven worshipers, wounded seven others and killed himself. Yet again, we have seen a sanctuary violated by gun violence, taking children brimming with faith and promise and hope before their time. Our Nation's support and prayers are with the families of the victims, those still suffering in the hospital, and the entire Fort Worth community.

Federal law enforcement officials are now working with State officials and local authorities to find all the answers. But we know we have to redouble our efforts to protect our children. We know we have to act as if it were our own children being targeted by gun violence.

We know that there is nothing we can do to assure that this will never happen, but there is a lot more we can do to assure that it will happen more rarely. And I can only hope that the shock of this event will spur that kind of action.

Thank you very much.

Consultation With Congressional Leaders on East Timor

Q. Mr. President, did you consult the leaders? You say you consulted the leaders on the force, this very small force?

The President. Yes. Yes.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:40 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Larry Gene Ashbrook, gunman who attacked a prayer group at Wedgewood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, TX, on September 15.

Teleconference Remarks With Governors From States Struck by Hurricane Floyd and Remarks to Disaster Relief Workers and an Exchange With Reporters

September 16, 1999

The President. Thank you, Governor. Let me just say, there may be some people who question, when this is over, whether we did the right thing to recommend all the evacuations. But now that we have this technology at the National Weather Center, we have to act on it. And we can all be grateful to God that this storm turned away and didn't hurt us as bad as we feared. But I think that this is a terrific test, even though it was extremely burdensome, because some day our ability to do this evacuation will save hundreds of people's lives.

And I just want to thank you, Governor. I'm glad that all those people, in the end, didn't have to go. But I'm glad we did it because we've got the technology now, we knew what was likely to happen, and I just wanted to thank you. And I hope that all your people also believe that some day our ability to do this will save hundreds of lives. And I thank you very much.

[A this point, Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., of North Carolina discussed three topics: the extent of hurricane damage in his State, especially flooding; the need for the President to declare a major disaster for North Carolina; and Federal aid in improving and coordinating evacuation routes.]

The President. Thank you, Governor. Let me say that on the third point you made, we'll do everything we can to help you. On the second point, we'll give you the declaration you seek today. And it's unusual, but it's fairly unusual for your wife to be waste-deep in water in somebody's home, too. [Laughter]

ter] So we'll try to help as much as we can. And I regret that you have had to go through this after what you went through with Fran. And we'll do everything we can to help you.

[A this point, Gov. James Gilmore of Virginia described problems with flooding, especially concerning water treatment facilities. He also described evacuation efforts, high winds affecting electric power service, and ask the President to declare a major disaster for Virginia.]

The President. Thank you, Governor. We will do that, and in particular, we want to help you with these emergency protective services that you will need. I'm very concerned about the water filtration plants and the other problems you have. We'll do everything we can to help.

[A this point, Federal Emergency Management Agency Director James Lee Witt thanked the President and the Federal agencies for their response to Hurricane Floyd.]

The President. You know, everywhere I go in the country that's the one thing nobody criticizes the Federal Government about. [Laughter] And I thank you very much, all of you. I'm very, very—I'm proud of what we've been able to do over these last few years to try to make sure that when something like this happens, we're always ready, and we do the best we can. And we help people. And I'm very proud of you.

This is something that adds a lot to the confidence of people, when they go through what we've just heard about here. Thank you. Thank you, Governor Gilmore, Governor Hodges, Governor Hunt, thank you all very much. And thank you in the Hurricane Center.

[Following the teleconference, the President made the following remarks to disaster relief workers.]

The President. Thank you very much. You can all hear that I can't speak very well today. I just came back from New Zealand. It's about a 20-hour trip, and I lost my voice on the airplane, and I apologize.

But let me begin by thanking all of you and Secretary Daley, Secretary Slater, my long-time friend, James Lee Witt. You have

no idea—perhaps you do—but you probably can't imagine how many times over the last 6½ years an American citizen has come up to me all over this country and thanked me for the emergency work that we do. And I always try to tell them that it's not me; it's you.

But when I became President, because I had been a Governor and because we had dealt with a lot of emergencies, I promised myself, as well as the American people, I would do everything I could to organize a team and give them the resources necessary to do what has to be done. And you have all performed superbly. So the first thing I just wanted to do is come by here and thank you very much.

Now, as all of you know, even though this hurricane was not as bad as we had feared, we've got a few problems out there. And I've just been briefed by the team here, members of the Cabinet, and I talked to Governor Hodges, Governor Hunt and Governor Gilmore. For several communities in the Carolinas and Virginia, the storm has brought very severe flooding, there are hundreds of thousands of people without power. There's been a lot of property destruction, and in the case of Virginia, the flooding of at least one, perhaps two, water filtration systems.

Governor Hunt said today that the North Carolina flooding is perhaps the worst in history. So, today, I'm releasing another \$528 million to FEMA to address the immediate needs of the victims of Hurricane Floyd and other disasters; issuing an emergency declaration for Virginia to cover debris removal and provide funding for emergency protective measures, including fire, rescue, and law enforcement officials; and a major disaster declaration for North Carolina to provide individual assistance to those directly affected.

In addition, we're working with officials from South Carolina to assess what else we can do there. And we're keeping in close contact with State and local officials in Maryland and the other coastal States, now that the storm has moved on.

Again, I'd like to say that I want to commend the citizens from all the States who heeded the warnings to move safely away, under difficult circumstances. I'm sure there will be those that second-guess us now, be-

cause Florida was not hit, and we moved a lot of people out, and there were plenty of people that moved out of other places. The storm wasn't as bad as we thought.

But we now have technology that imposes on us the responsibility of telling people what we think is going to happen. And there is no question that because we can do this, thousands and thousands of lives will be saved. Governor Hunt said today, there is no question in his mind that lives were saved in North Carolina, because of the people who did evacuate.

So while we thank goodness that the storm was not as bad as we had feared, I just want to reaffirm my absolute conviction that the people in the emergency services work did the right thing to issue the warnings, did the right thing to recommend evacuation. And we got a lot of good practice here, which is going to save a large number of lives in the future.

I also would just like to say, in closing, that the United States, at times like this, always pulls together. There are a lot of people out there today without power; there are a lot of people with their homes flooded; a lot of people feeling fairly desperate. And I know I speak for all of you when I say, we don't want them to feel alone. We will do everything we possibly can to be good, loyal, helpful neighbors to them and get them through this.

Thank you very much.

Coastal Development

Q. Mr. President, with Federal flood insurance, is the Government encouraging coastal development at a time when we may be in a new cycle of more dangerous and more frequent storms?

[Federal Emergency Management Agency Director James Lee Witt answered the question.]

Agricultural Assistance

Q. Mr. President, will there be any central hurricane relief for farmers whose crops have been damaged, Mr. President? There seems to be a shortfall in the hurricane relief they've gotten.

The President. Well, that's one thing that Governor Hunt asked me about yesterday,

and I am looking at that, because the general disaster assistance performers tends to be targeted to the big, grow-crop places in the Middle West primarily—not exclusively—as is natural, because that's where a lot of the big dollar-volume losses have been.

So we've got to go back and look, now, and see what we're doing, because we've got not only this flooding, but also, in this part of the country we've had the biggest drought that these farmers had ever had. So most of them—not most but a large number of farmers from Maryland north, in this country, had lost their crops before the flood came. So we need to look at that, and we will now go back, obviously, down to the Carolinas, and go upward and see where we are. And I'll do my best to work with Congress to get appropriate relief for them.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:10 p.m. at the Federal Emergency Management Agency headquarters. In his opening remarks, he referred to Gov. Jim Hodges of South Carolina.

Statement on the Announcement of the Gates Millennium Scholarships

September 16, 1999

I applaud the leadership and foresight shown by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation today with its \$1 billion pledge to provide full college scholarships for minority students in the fields of education, math, science, and engineering. These landmark scholarships will help address important needs: the need to encourage young people to become teachers, the need to ensure that our children are well-prepared in math and science, and the need to open the doors of higher learning to all students. The Gates Millennium Scholarships remind us what vital role philanthropies can play in American life and how urgent it is for all of us to invest now in our Nation's young people.

Statement on Robert E. Rubin's Acceptance of the Chairman of the Board Position at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation

September 16, 1999

I am pleased that Bob Rubin has accepted the job as Chairman of the Board of LISC. This service is consistent with his longstanding commitment to bring economic opportunities to America's most underserved communities. His selection is not only a tremendous boost for LISC but also for those who advocate community economic development to ensure that all Americans share in our economic prosperity.

Statement on Transmitting the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer to the Senate

September 16, 1999

Today, on the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, I am transmitting to the Senate for its advice and consent an amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Preservation of the ozone layer is critical to life on Earth. The Montreal Protocol has led to a dramatic reduction in the production and use of ozone-depleting chemicals, and scientists report that the ozone layer is on its way to recovery. The amendment I transmit today builds on this progress, in part by strengthening measures to promote compliance with the Protocol. I urge the Senate to approve this amendment.

It also is critical that the United States support efforts by developing countries to phase out their use of ozone-depleting chemicals. Regrettably, appropriations measures now before Congress would deny funds I have requested for the Montreal Protocol Fund, which has a long record of success in these efforts. I call on Congress to approve the funds needed to help preserve the Earth's protective ozone layer.

**Message to the Senate Transmitting
the Montreal Protocol on Substances
That Deplete the Ozone Layer**

September 16, 1999

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, the Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Montreal on September 15–17, 1997, by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. The report of the Department of State is also enclosed for the information of the Senate.

The principal features of the 1997 Amendment, which was negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), are the addition of methyl bromide to the substances that are subject to trade control with non-Parties; and the addition of a licensing requirement for import and export of controlled substances. The 1997 Amendment will constitute a major step forward in protecting public health and the environment from potential adverse effects of stratospheric ozone depletion.

By its terms, the 1997 Amendment was to have entered into force on January 1, 1999, provided that at least 20 states had deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, or approval. However, because this condition was not met until August 12, 1999, the 1997 Amendment will enter into force on November 10, 1999.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the 1997 Amendment to the Montreal Protocol and give its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 16, 1999.

**Proclamation 7222—Citizenship Day
and Constitution Week, 1999**

September 16, 1999

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

The Constitution is perhaps our Nation's most cherished document, the compass that has helped us chart America's course toward freedom, human dignity, and democracy for more than 200 years. Its text, born of the genius and idealism of our Founders and hammered out through hard effort and compromise by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention, established a system of government capable of responding to the pressures of social and political change. It created a sacred covenant that continues to bind all our citizens by a set of principles based on the ideals of equality, inclusion, and independence and by a delicate balance of powers, rights, and responsibilities among citizens and their State and Federal Governments. Today, sustained by the efforts and sacrifices of generations of Americans, the U.S. Constitution remains as strong and vibrant a charter of freedom as it was at the time of its signing 212 years ago.

The 20th century has witnessed a great wave of migration of men and women to our Nation from all parts of the globe, attracted by the freedom, justice, and rule of law guaranteed by our Constitution. As they assume the responsibilities of American citizenship, they infuse our political process with fresh perspectives and enthusiasm and prove to the world that a diverse people can live in peace and progress. Today we are a Nation with new hopes, new dreams, and new people, but we are united by a devotion to the same democratic ideals that have guided us for over 200 years.

As we reflect upon America's past, we recognize that our country is still in the act of becoming the "more perfect union" envisioned by our Founders. Every generation of Americans has struggled to live up to our

Nation's promise, working to overcome forces of fear or ignorance or prejudice that would seek to deny the rights of others because of their gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. The 21st century may bring new challenges to the rights and liberties of American citizens, but we can be confident that the Constitution will still light a clear and shining path of freedom and justice into the future.

During Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, let us recognize the great efforts not only of our leaders, but also of ordinary Americans who labor daily to uphold and strengthen the ideals embodied in our Constitution. Whether citizens by birth or choice, we share the blessings guaranteed to us by the Constitution and the responsibility of ensuring that those blessings are extended to all our people equally.

In commemoration of the signing of the Constitution and in recognition of the importance of active, responsible citizenship in preserving the Constitution's blessings for our Nation, the Congress, by joint resolution of February 29, 1952 (36 U.S.C. 153), designated September 17 as "Citizenship Day," and by joint resolution of August 2, 1956 (U.S.C. 159), requested that the President proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as "Constitution Week."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 17, 1999, as Citizenship Day and September 17 through September 23, 1999, as Constitution Week. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials, as well as leaders of civic, educational, and religious organizations, to conduct meaningful ceremonies and programs in our schools, houses of worship, and other community centers to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the Constitution and the rights and duties of citizenship. I also call on all citizens to rededicate themselves to the principles of the Constitution.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, and of the independence of the

United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 20, 1999]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 21.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Proposed
"Cyberspace Electronic Security Act
of 1999"**

September 16, 1999

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit for your early consideration and speedy enactment a legislative proposal entitled the "Cyberspace Electronic Security Act of 1999" (CESA). Also transmitted herewith is a section-by-section analysis.

There is little question that continuing advances in technology are changing forever the way in which people live, the way they communicate with each other, and the manner in which they work and conduct commerce. In just a few years, the Internet has shown the world a glimpse of what is attainable in the information age. As a result, the demand for more and better access to information and electronic commerce continues to grow—among not just individuals and consumers, but also among financial, medical, and educational institutions, manufacturers and merchants, and State and local governments. This increased reliance on information and communications raises important privacy issues because Americans want assurance that their sensitive personal and business information is protected from unauthorized access as it resides on and traverses national and international communications networks. For Americans to trust this new electronic environment, and for the promise of electronic commerce and the global information infrastructure to be fully realized, information systems must provide methods to protect the data and communications of legitimate users. Encryption can address this need because encryption can be used to protect the confidentiality of both stored data

and communications. Therefore, my Administration continues to support the development, adoption, and use of robust encryption by legitimate users.

At the same time, however, the same encryption products that help facilitate confidential communications between law-abiding citizens also pose a significant and undeniable public safety risk when used to facilitate and mask illegal and criminal activity. Although cryptography has many legitimate and important uses, it is also increasingly used as a means to promote criminal activity, such as drug trafficking, terrorism, white collar crime, and the distribution of child pornography.

The advent and eventual widespread use of encryption poses significant and heretofore unseen challenges to law enforcement and public safety. Under existing statutory and constitutional law, law enforcement is provided with different means to collect evidence of illegal activity in such forms as communications or stored data on computers. These means are rendered wholly insufficient when encryption is utilized to scramble the information in such a manner that law enforcement, acting pursuant to lawful authority, cannot decipher the evidence in a timely manner, if at all. In the context of law enforcement operations, time is of the essence and may mean the difference between success and catastrophic failure.

A sound and effective public policy must support the development and use of encryption for legitimate purposes but allow access to plaintext by law enforcement when encryption is utilized by criminals. This requires an approach that properly balances critical privacy interest with the need to preserve public safety. As is explained more fully in the sectional analysis that accompanies this proposed legislation, the CESA provides such a balance by simultaneously creating significant new privacy protections for lawful users of encryption, while assisting law enforcement's efforts to preserve existing and constitutionally supported means of responding to criminal activity.

The CESA establishes limitations on government use and disclosure of decryption keys obtained by court process and provides special protections for decryption keys stored

with third party "recovery agents." CESA authorizes a recovery agent to disclose stored recovery information to the government, or to use stored recovery information on behalf of the government, in a narrow range of circumstances (*e.g.*, pursuant to a search warrant or in accordance with a court order under the Act). In addition, CESA would authorize appropriations for the Technical Support Center in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which will serve as a centralized technical resource for Federal, State, and local law enforcement in responding to the increasing use of encryption by criminals.

I look forward to working with the Congress on this important national issue.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 16, 1999.

Statement on the Terrorist Attacks in Russia

September 17, 1999

On behalf of the American people, I want to extend our deepest condolences to the families of victims of recent bombings in Russia. Our thoughts and prayers are with the loved ones of the nearly 300 people whose lives were tragically lost.

The American people share the world's outrage over these cowardly acts. These attacks were aimed not just at innocent people across Russia. They also targeted fundamental human rights and democratic values, which are cherished by Russia and other members of the international community. We must not allow terrorists to achieve their underlying objective, which is to undermine democratic institutions and individual freedoms.

People across Russia who have been affected by these attacks are now beginning the hard task of rebuilding their lives. Their courage and resilience sets an example for all of us. President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Putin have also made important appeals to their countrymen that these attacks should not lead to new incidents of intolerance or bigotry and that the public should remain calm and unified in response.

In the days and weeks ahead, we will intensify our cooperation with Russian authorities to help prevent terrorist acts. The struggle against terrorism is a long and difficult road, but we must not lose our resolve. America stands ready to work with Russia to protect our citizens from this common threat.

NOTE: In this statement, the President referred to President Boris Yeltsin and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin of Russia.

Statement on the Common Ground Partnerships Initiative

September 17, 1999

Today, as we celebrate Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, thousands of individuals in naturalization ceremonies across America are pledging their allegiance to the United States and to the ideals that undergird our Nation. Like generations of immigrants past, they are driven by a dream—and to achieve that dream, they seek to learn the ways of this land. I believe we can help these new citizens become full participants in American society. That is why my administration has proposed the creation of the Common Ground Partnerships, an innovative initiative that would combine expanded English language instruction with education in civics and life skills. This initiative, which my FY 2000 budget funds at \$70 million, will help ensure that those who become Americans learn not only the words of the citizenship oath but also the broader language of our civic life. I hope that Members of Congress from both parties will recognize the power of this important initiative to build a stronger American community.

Statement on Patients' Bill of Rights Legislation

September 17, 1999

I am pleased that the House of Representatives will have an opportunity in just a few weeks to vote on a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights. This will, at long last, give Members of Congress an opportunity to put patients' interests ahead of the special interests.

A bipartisan majority of the House has already expressed support for the Norwood-Dingell proposal, a plan that would provide for an enforceable set of meaningful patient protections that would be extended to all Americans in all health plans. I am confident that the Norwood-Dingell Patients' Bill of Rights will be adopted, if the House leadership permits a fair process for debating and voting on this important issue.

Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 1999

September 17, 1999

I am pleased to send warm greetings to all those observing Yom Kippur.

On this most solemn of holy days, Jews across our nation and around the world prepare for the new year through fasting, prayer, and quiet reflection. Examining their thoughts, words, and deeds of the past year, they strive to acknowledge and learn from their transgressions, seek forgiveness from those whom they may have offended, and ask for God's mercy.

This Day of Atonement can offer a powerful lesson to people of all faiths about the true spirit of reconciliation and the unconditional love of God. It can teach us not only to face our own failures, but also to love and forgive one another as God loves and forgives us. As the Jewish people set aside this time to repair their relationships and renew their souls, let us all vow to work together to heal divisions, promote tolerance and understanding, and share the blessings of peace in the year to come.

Hillary joins me in extending best wishes to all for a meaningful Yom Kippur.

Bill Clinton

Proclamation 7223—Ovarian Cancer Awareness Week, 1999

September 17, 1999

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Ovarian cancer is a devastating disease that takes the lives of thousands of women in our

Nation each year. Since 1985, there has been a dramatic increase in the incidence of ovarian cancer, with a 30 percent increase in the number of women diagnosed with the disease and an 18 percent increase in the number of fatalities. Ovarian cancer is particularly deadly, killing nearly 15,000 women each year. It is often not diagnosed until the cancer is in the late states of development, limiting the effectiveness of treatment and reducing the chances of survival. In its late stages, the chances of survival from ovarian cancer are just 25 percent; when it is detected early, before the cancer spreads, the survival rate exceeds 90 percent.

Our most effective weapon in the battle against ovarian cancer is early detection. Subtle but recognizable symptoms, such as bloating, vague abdominal pain and discomfort, gastrointestinal problems, back pain, and fatigue can also be symptoms of other less serious illnesses, but women who are experiencing such early warning signs should consult their doctors immediately for appropriate tests.

Doctors and researchers have identified factors that put women at higher risk of developing ovarian cancer, including a family history of breast and ovarian cancer, a high fat diet, never having had children, or infertility. It is vital that women learn about risk factors and visit their doctors regularly.

As we observe Ovarian Cancer Awareness Week, let us build on our efforts to eradicate this serious disease and urge all American women and their families to learn more about ovarian cancer, its symptoms, and available methods that may reduce the risk of developing it. By increasing awareness of early warning signs and risk factors, maintaining a healthy diet, and consulting regularly with health care professionals, women across America can lead healthier and longer lives and help our Nation win the fight against ovarian cancer.

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 September 19 through September 25, 1999, as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Week. I encourage the

American people to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 20, 1999]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 21.

Memorandum on Assistance for Federal Employees Affected by Hurricane Floyd

September 17, 1999

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Assistance for Federal Employees Affected by Hurricane Floyd

I am deeply concerned about the devastating losses suffered by many as a result of Hurricane Floyd. Many parts of the Federal Government have been mobilized to respond to this disaster.

As part of this effort, I ask the heads of executive departments and agencies to excuse from duty without charge to leave or loss of pay those Federal civilian employees who are affected by Hurricane Floyd and its aftermath and who can be spared from their usual responsibilities. Specifically, I request that excused absence be granted to employees who are needed for emergency law enforcement, relief, or clean-up efforts authorized by Federal, State, or other officials having jurisdiction and employees who are prevented from reporting for work or faced with a personal emergency because of Hurricane Floyd and its aftermath.

I am also authorizing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to determine whether there is a need to establish an emergency leave transfer program to assist employees affected by this major disaster. An emergency leave transfer program would permit employees in an executive agency to

donate their unused annual leave for transfer to employees of the same or other agencies who were adversely affected by Hurricane Floyd and who need additional time off for recovery. If the need for donated annual leave becomes evident, I direct OPM to establish the emergency leave transfer program and provide additional information to agencies on the program's administration.

William J. Clinton

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

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.

September 10¹

The President announced his intention to nominate William B. Bader to be Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs at the Department of State.

September 11

After crossing the international dateline, the President arrived in Auckland, New Zealand, in the morning.

September 12

In the morning, the President met with the America's Cup crew at Hobson Wharf at the New Zealand National Maritime Museum. Later, he had a telephone conversation with Serena Williams congratulating her on winning the U.S. Open tennis tournament.

In the afternoon, the President met with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin of Russia in the Merlion Room at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. The President also met briefly with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia.

Later in the afternoon, the President attended APEC summit meetings at the

Carlton Hotel. In the evening, he attended an APEC dinner in the townhall.

September 14

In the morning, the President traveled to Queenstown, New Zealand.

The White House announced that the President will address the 54th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City on September 21.

The President declared an emergency in Georgia and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area impacted by Hurricane Floyd on September 14 and continuing.

The President declared an emergency in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area impacted by Hurricane Floyd on September 14 and continuing.

September 15

In the morning, the President traveled to Christchurch, New Zealand, where he toured the International Antarctic Centre.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC. While en route and after crossing the international dateline, the President stopped at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii, arriving in the morning of September 15. The President arrived in Washington, DC, after midnight.

The President announced his intention to appoint Ray Martinez as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sheryl Dicker and Patricia T. Russell as members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sally Katzen as Chair of the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise.

The President announced his intention to appoint C. Michael Armstrong as a member of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The President declared an emergency in South Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area impacted by Hurricane Floyd on September 14 and continuing.

¹ This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President declared an emergency in North Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Floyd on September 15 and continuing.

September 16

The President declared a major disaster in North Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Floyd on September 15 and continuing.

September 17

The President announced his intention to appoint Steve Owens as a member of the Joint Public Advisory Committee of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Theresa Trujeque as a member or the Advisory Council of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sheryl Dicker and Patricia T. Russell as members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

The President announced his intention to appoint C. Michael Armstrong as a member of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sally Katzen as Chair of the Inter-agency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mary Carlin Yates to be Ambassador to Burundi.

The President declared an emergency in New Jersey and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Floyd on September 16 and continuing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted September 13, 1999

William B. Bader,
of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State (Educational and Cultural Affairs) (new position).

Sim Farar,
of California, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Roger Walton Ferguson, Jr.,
of Massachusetts, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of 4 years, vice Alice M. Rivlin, resigned.

Roger Walton Ferguson, Jr.,
of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of 14 years from February 1, 2000 (reappointment).

John F. Potter,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for a term expiring May 1, 2005, vice T. Burton Smith, Jr., term expired.

Submitted September 14

Joshua Gotbaum,
of New York, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, vice G. Edward DeSeve.

Joe Kendall,
of Texas, to be a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2001, vice David A. Mazzone, term expired.

Michael O'Neill,
of Maryland, to be a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2003, vice Deanell Reece Tacha, term expired.

John Hollingsworth Sinclair,
of Vermont, to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Vermont for the term of 4 years, vice John Edward Rouille, resigned.

John R. Steer,
of Virginia, to be a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission for the remainder of the term expiring October 31, 1999, vice Wayne Anthony Budd, resigned.

John R. Steer,
of Virginia, to be a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2005 (reappointment).

Submitted September 16

Kathleen McCree Lewis,
of Michigan, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Cornelia G. Kennedy, retired.

Enrique Moreno,
of Texas, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, vice William L. Garwood, retired.

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 September 11

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger, National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling, and Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Released September 12

Transcript of a readout by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on the President's meetings with foreign leaders

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Fact sheet: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

Fact sheet: The World Trade Organization Ministerial in Seattle

Released September 13

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger, National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling, and Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on the statement of President Bacharuddi Habibie of Indonesia on the situation in East Timor

Statement by the Press Secretary on the imprisonment of Canadian journalist Murray Heibert in Malaysia

Announcement of the letter to Members of Congress on proposed campaign reform legislation

Released September 14

Statement by the Press Secretary: President to Address the United Nations General Assembly

Statement by Chairman Martin N. Baily, President's Council of Economic Advisers on the national economy

Announcement of nomination of U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Vermont

Released September 15

Fact sheet: President Clinton: Protecting Antarctica and the Global Environment

Released September 16

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy National Security Adviser Jim Steinberg, Attorney General Janet Reno, Deputy Secretary of Defense John Hamre, Under Secretary of Commerce Bill Reinsch, and Office of Management and Budget Chief Counselor for Privacy Peter Swire on encryption policy

Statement by the Press Secretary: Administration Announces New Approach to Encryption

Fact sheet: Administration Updates Encryption Export Policy

Fact sheet: The Cyberspace Electronic Security Act of 1999

Announcement of nomination for U.S. Court of Appeals Judges for the Fifth Circuit and the Sixth Circuit

Announcement: Vice President Al Gore Announces New Report Demonstrating Stronger Federal and State Laws Needed to Protect Americans Against On-Line Stalking

Released September 17

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Statement by the Press Secretary: Easing Sanctions Against North Korea

Fact sheet: Easing Sanctions Against North Korea

**Acts Approved
by the President**

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