President Clinton. Well, what I said was—and I did do that—I asked the State Department to review the case and I gave the—and other agencies did so as well. He is no longer a Member of Parliament, which is what I take my statement on. And they unanimously recommended that the visa not be granted. I have no grounds to overrule them.

Lani Guinier

Q. Mr. President, at your press conference today on the Lani Guinier question, you seem to suggest—please correct me if I’m wrong—but that it’s simply a matter of Congress confirming her and her doing—or, excuse me, the Senate confirming her and her doing Congress’ will as it relates to the Civil Rights Division. But her writings suggest a very interesting interpretation of things like the Voting Rights Act, which she would extend to the executive branch, numerical goals for judicial appointments, which I believe you opposed in your campaign. So what is the Senate, then, to make of the fact that you’ve sent somebody up there that favors things that you oppose?

President Clinton. Well listen, I would never have appointed anybody to public office if they had to agree with everything I believe in. We wouldn’t have a Cabinet. I mean, I take it, based on my personal experience, you will believe me when I say I am confident that she’ll follow the Constitution and the laws of the United States. You have to swear an oath of office to that. She may wish the law were different in some areas. But I’ve had personal experience with her accomplishments as a civil rights lawyer, and I thought we ought to have a distinguished civil rights lawyer as head of the Civil Rights Division. And I say again, the Congress passes the laws and the executive branch enforces them, and when there is a question of policy, that will be resolved by the Attorney General.

Q. Are you disassociating yourself from her writings, sir?

President Clinton. I never have associated myself with all of her writings or all of anybody else’s. I even found a word or two in the Vice President’s book I didn’t agree with. [Laughter]

Ireland

Q. President Robinson, what is your message to President Clinton? What is your message to President Clinton today?

President Robinson. Well, it is certainly a very special occasion to come here as President of Ireland and to be welcomed by President Clinton. And I want to reiterate the invitation that has already been extended to him by the Taoiseach to renew his acquaintance with Dublin and to come to Ireland on an appropriate occasion. And I want to express appreciation of the fact that President Clinton has clearly signaled an interest in and an active concern for Ireland, for the modern Ireland, the Ireland which I have the honor to represent and that you and your administration are keeping in very close contact, that there is a very open communication and a sense of that, and that has been very consciously realized in Ireland itself and throughout the island of Ireland. And I think it is a very significant and helpful factor in our relations.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:25 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. During the exchange, the following persons were referred to: Albert Reynolds, Prime Minister of Ireland, and Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Fein. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Message to the Congress Reporting on the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

May 14, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby report to the Congress on developments since the last Presidential report on November 10, 1992, concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order No. 12170 of November 14, 1979, and matters relating to Executive Order No. 12613 of October 29, 1987. This report
is submitted pursuant to section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa–9(c).


1. There have been no amendments to the Iranian Transactions Regulations ("ITRs"), 31 CFR Part 560, or to the Iranian Assets Control Regulations ("IACRs"), 31 CFR Part 535, since the last report.

2. The Office of Foreign Assets Control ("FAC") of the Department of the Treasury continues to process applications for import licenses under the ITRs. However, as previously reported, recent amendments to the ITRs have resulted in a substantial decrease in the number of applications received relating to the importation of nonfungible Iranian-origin goods.

During the reporting period, the Customs Service has continued to effect numerous seizures of Iranian-origin merchandise, primarily carpets, for violation of the import prohibitions of the ITRs. FAC and Customs Service investigations of these violations have resulted in forfeiture actions and the imposition of civil monetary penalties. Additional forfeiture and civil penalty actions are under review.

3. The Iran-United States Claims Tribunal (the "Tribunal"), established at The Hague pursuant to the Algiers Accords, continues to make progress in arbitrating the claims before it. Since the last report, the Tribunal has rendered 12 awards, for a total of 545 awards. Of that total, 367 have been awards in favor of American claimants: 222 of these were awards on agreed terms, authorizing and approving payment of settlements negotiated by the parties, and 145 were decisions adjudicated on the merits. The Tribunal has issued 36 decisions dismissing claims on the merits and 83 decisions dismissing claims for jurisdictional reasons. Of the 59 remaining awards, 3 approved the withdrawal of cases, and 56 were in favor of Iranian claimants.

As of March 31, 1993, awards to successful cases, and 56 were in favor of Iranian claimants. The Tribunal has issued 36 decisions dismissing cases on the merits and 83 decisions dismissing cases for jurisdictional reasons. Of the 59 remaining awards, 3 approved the withdrawal of cases, and 56 were in favor of Iranian claimants.

4. The Tribunal continues to make progress in the arbitration of claims of U.S. nationals for $250,000.00 or more. Since the last report, nine large claims have been decided. More than 55 percent of the nonbank claims have now been disposed of through adjudication, settlement, or voluntary withdrawal, leaving 76 such claims on the docket. The larger claims, the resolution of which has been slowed by their complexity, are finally being resolved, sometimes with sizable awards to the U.S. claimants. For example, two claimants were awarded more than $130 million each by the Tribunal in October 1992.

5. As anticipated by the May 13, 1990, agreement settling the claims of U.S. nationals for less than $250,000.00, the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission ("FCSC") has continued its review of 3,112 claims. FCSC has issued decisions in 1,201 claims, for total awards of more than $22 million. The FCSC expects to complete its adjudication of the remaining claims in early 1994.

6. In coordination with concerned Government agencies, the Department of State continues to present United States Government claims against Iran, as well as responses by the United States Government to claims brought against it by Iran. In November 1992, the United States filed 25 volumes of supporting information in case B/1 (Claims 2 & 3). Iran's claim against the United States for damages relating to its Foreign Military Sales Program. In February of this year, the United States participated in a daylong prehearing conference in several other cases involving military equipment. Iran also filed a new interpretative dispute alleging that the failure of U.S. courts to enforce an award
against a U.S. corporation violated the Algiers Accords.

7. As reported in November, Jose Maria Ruda, President of the Tribunal, tendered his resignation on October 2, 1992. No successor has yet been named. Judge Ruda’s resignation will take effect as soon as a successor becomes available to take up his duties.

8. The situation reviewed above continues to involve important diplomatic, financial, and legal interests of the United States and its nationals. Iran’s policy behavior presents challenges to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. The IACRs issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 12170 continue to play an important role in structuring our relationship with Iran and in enabling the United States to implement properly the Algiers Accords. Similarly, the ITRs issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 12613 continue to advance important objectives in combating international terrorism. I shall exercise the powers at my disposal to deal with these problems and will report periodically to the Congress on significant developments.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
May 14, 1993.

Nomination for an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury
May 14, 1993

The President will nominate Richard Carnell, the senior counsel of the Senate Banking Committee and former attorney for the Federal Reserve Board, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions.

“Richard Carnell has been consistently recognized for his expertise in banking law and his ability to help shape policy decisions,” said the President. “I look forward to him playing a key role in shaping banking policy in the next 4 years.”

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

The President’s Radio Address
May 15, 1993

Good morning. As we all rejoice in this magnificent spring and the promise of renewal that it brings, we should also feel renewed as citizens, renewed by the progress that is being made in Washington, the progress we are making in strengthening the American economy to help us be more competitive, to grow, to work for the middle class again. Gridlock is on the way out, and our plan to rebuild the economy and restore opportunity for all Americans is moving through Congress.

Look at the progress. Just 3 months ago, I submitted to Congress a balanced economic plan that asked everyone to work together to invest a little more in deficit reduction today, so that we can all enjoy better jobs and higher incomes tomorrow. It says we can do what no generation has ever been called upon to do before, that we can reduce our deficit sharply and still increase investment wisely in jobs and education and new technology, because we must do both to be a competitive America, to create more jobs and economic growth.

We began by forcing real discipline on the big spenders by making deep and enforceable cuts in the Federal Government in over 200 specific programs. And believe me, these cuts are real. We’ve taken on spending groups and interest groups that have never been taken on. We’ve made tough decisions, and now Congress is working with me to make them stick. It wasn’t easy.

We’d made major reductions in the so-called entitlement programs like medical care, agriculture, Federal retirement programs. Virtually no area of domestic spending was left un-