Letter to Congressional Leaders on Locality-Based Comparability Payments
November 30, 1994

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

In accordance with section 5304(d)(3) of title 5, United States Code, I hereby report to the Congress on the implementation of locality-based comparability payments for General Schedule employees for calendar year 1995.

I have directed the President’s Pay Agent to put into effect the locality-based comparability payments shown on the enclosed table, effective in January 1995. The report of the President’s Pay Agent, which includes the information required by section 5304(d)(3) regarding comparability payments for 1995 and 1996, is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on December 1. The related memorandum is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks Announcing the Appointment of George Mitchell as Special Adviser for Economic Initiatives in Ireland
December 1, 1994

Good morning. Ladies and gentlemen, today is the last day of this session of Congress. And therefore, it’s the last day that all of us in America have the privilege of having George Mitchell as the Senate majority leader. I will personally miss him very much, his wise counsel, his support, his strong leadership for the American people.

I know that his colleagues on both sides of the aisle and the American people will also miss his leadership and the thoughtfulness and the courage that have distinguished him throughout his long career. My regret about his retirement is tempered, at least in some measure, by the fact that as one chapter in his life of extraordinary public service closes, another is opening.

Today Senator Mitchell has agreed to work on an issue of central importance to me and to our country as Special Adviser to the President and the Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland.

We stand on the verge of a new and peaceful era in Northern Ireland. For over 3 months, the historic cease-fires between the IRA and the loyalist parliamentary groups have held. I welcome today’s invitation by Downing Street to Sinn Fein to begin an exploratory dialog by December 7th. A just and lasting settlement that respects the rights and traditions of the two communities in Northern Ireland is, after so many years of bloodshed, finally within reach. But at this hopeful and historic moment, it’s essential to create more economic opportunity in a region whose prospects have been so blighted by bloodshed. There must be a peace dividend in Ireland for the peace to succeed. Peace and prosperity depend upon one another.

One of the most important ways that we here in the United States can ensure that peace takes root is to promote trade and investment in the areas of Ireland that have suffered the most from violence. That’s why last month we announced our economic initiatives for Ireland. They’re a response to the call of all the parties in the region for the development that will help them to lift themselves out of the cycle of conflict and despair. As we have in the past, the United States stands ready to help those who are taking risks for peace. To do that, we’ll work in close cooperation with the private sector here in the United States and with Britain, Ireland, and other concerned parties in Europe and elsewhere.

Ultimately, of course, the success of the peace process will depend most on those who have been most affected, on whether they believe it will give them a better future. That’s why our initiatives to help revitalize the economy