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Lorber, USAF, Commander, Pacific Air Forces; Adm. Richard C. Macke, USN, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command; and Mayor Jeremy Harris of Honolulu.

Memorandum on Micro-Enterprise Programs

August 26, 1995

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury

Subject: Micro-Enterprise Programs

I hereby direct you to take all appropriate actions to coordinate all micro-enterprise programs administered by the Federal agencies and departments. This should be accomplished through an interagency coordinating body chaired by the Administrator of the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund.

I also direct you to take the necessary steps for the establishment of a presidential awards program designed to honor outstanding micro-enterprise lenders, consistent with the mission of the CDFI Fund.

In discharging these responsibilities, you are directed to consult with the heads of other Executive departments and agencies as may be appropriate.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 1.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on the Alternative Plan for Federal Pay Adjustment

August 31, 1995

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

The law requires that the President transmit to the Congress an alternative plan for Federal pay adjustments if he views the pay adjustments that would take effect under the law as inappropriate. Therefore, to ensure that substantially larger increases do not take effect automatically, I am transmitting an alternative plan for the 1996 pay adjustments.

Under section 5303(a) of title 5, United States Code, the rates of basic pay would rise by 2.4 percent, effective in January 1996. In addition, pursuant to section 5304 of title 5, General Schedule employees also would receive an increase in their locality-based comparability payments that would cost 2.7 percent of payroll. When combined with the 2.4 percent basic pay increase, the locality-based payments would produce a total payroll increase of about 5.1 percent that would cost $3.9 billion in 1996—$2 billion more than the 2.4 percent pay increase I proposed in my 1996 Budget and which is included in my Balanced Budget Plan.

Sections 5303(b) and 5304a of title 5, however, provide me the authority to implement an alternate pay adjustment plan if I view the pay adjustments that would otherwise take effect as inappropriate due to "national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare." As you know, Presidents have used such authority many times over the past 15 years.

In evaluating "an economic condition affecting the general welfare," the statute directs me to consider such economic measures as the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the Gross National Product, the unemployment rate, the budget deficit, the Consumer Price Index, the Producer Price Index, the Employment Cost Index, and the Implicit Price Deflator for Personal Consumption Expenditures. I have reviewed these and other pertinent measures of our economy.

The budget discipline that my Administration has put in place has contributed to sustained economic growth and low inflation. To continue