

PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE
UNITED STATES

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Foreword

As 1999 opened, and we marked the last year of the 20th century, Americans took stock of our blessings. And they were many. We had the longest peacetime expansion in our Nation's history, nearly 18 million new jobs, low inflation, peace at home, and strength abroad.

We looked ahead to the next century and sought to meet its new challenges. We announced grants that will bring 30,000 new teachers into our Nation's classrooms to prepare the leaders of tomorrow. We proposed the Medicare Modernization plan to secure Medicare for the next two decades and offer our citizens affordable prescription drug coverage. And I asked the Congress to commit 60 percent of our budget surplus to Social Security for the next 15 years to put it on a sound footing for our generation and for those who follow us.

Overseas, America stood firm with those who stand for peace—and against the forces of aggression and hatred. Our NATO Alliance celebrated its 50th anniversary, admitting three new members—the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland. With our NATO allies, we defeated ethnic cleansing in Kosovo and kept the peace in that troubled corner of Europe. Together, we put the integration of the Balkans into Europe high on the international agenda. And our relationship with Russia stood up to challenges as Russia helped make and keep the peace in Kosovo.

We helped Israelis and Palestinians reach new accords at the Wye River Plantation, in Maryland, revitalizing the Middle East peace process. Northern Ireland installed its first institutions of self-government, the result of free and open elections and power-sharing agreements.

Here at home, we celebrated one of the most important achievements of our century, and looked back on our progress, when we honored Rosa Parks with a Congressional Gold Medal for her courageous leadership in the civil rights movement. Looking ahead to the future, I created the President's Initiative for One America to promote racial reconciliation in the century ahead.

We were also faced, again and again, with the tragedies and difficulties of our modern age. As a Nation, we struggled to make sense of the horrific shootings at Columbine High School; and we pressed to pass commonsense gun safety legislation to make such tragedies less likely.

In my State of the Union address, the last of the 20th century, I reminded Americans that, 100 years from now, America will end a 21st century shaped in so many ways by the decisions we make here and now. "Let it be said of us then," I said, "that we were thinking not only of our time, but of their time; that we reached as high as our ideals; that we put aside our divisions and found a new hour of healing and hopefulness; that we joined together to serve the land we love."

William Clinton

Preface

This book contains the papers and speeches of the 42d President of the United States that were issued by the Office of the Press Secretary during the period January 1–June 30, 1999. The material has been compiled and published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration.

The material is presented in chronological order, and the dates shown in the headings are the dates of the documents or events. In instances when the release date differs from the date of the document itself, that fact is shown in the textnote. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy: Remarks are checked against a tape recording, and signed documents are checked against the original. Textnotes and cross references have been provided by the editors for purposes of identification or clarity. Speeches were delivered in Washington, DC, unless indicated. The times noted are local times. All materials that are printed full-text in the book have been indexed in the subject and name indexes, and listed in the document categories list.

The Public Papers of the Presidents series was begun in 1957 in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission. An extensive compilation of messages and papers of the Presidents covering the period 1789 to 1897 was assembled by James D. Richardson and published under congressional authority between 1896 and 1899. Since then, various private compilations have been issued, but there was no uniform publication comparable to the Congressional Record or the United States Supreme Court Reports. Many Presidential papers could be found only in the form of mimeographed White House releases or as reported in the press. The Commission therefore recommended the establishment of an official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature could be made available.

The Commission's recommendation was incorporated in regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, issued under section 6 of the Federal Register Act (44 U.S.C. 1506), which may be found in title 1, part 10, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

A companion publication to the Public Papers series, the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, was begun in 1965 to provide a broader range of Presidential materials on a more timely basis to meet the needs of the contemporary reader. Beginning with the administration of Jimmy Carter, the Public Papers series expanded its coverage to include additional material as printed in the Weekly Compilation. That coverage provides a listing of the President's daily schedule and meetings, when announced, and other items of general interest issued by the Office of the Press Secretary. Also included are lists of the President's nominations submitted to the Senate, materials released by the Office of the Press Secretary that are not printed full-text in the book, and proclamations, Executive orders, and other Presidential documents released by the Office of the Press Secretary and published in the *Federal Register*. This information appears in the appendixes at the end of the book.

Volumes covering the administrations of Presidents Hoover, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush are also included in the Public Papers series.

The Public Papers of the Presidents publication program is under the direction of Frances D. McDonald, Managing Editor, Office of the Federal Register. The series is produced by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Gwen H. Estep, Chief. The Chief Editor of this book was Karen Howard Ashlin, assisted by Brad Brooks, Anna Glover, Margaret A. Hemmig, Maxine Hill, Alfred Jones, Jennifer S. Mangum, Melanie L. Marcec, Lisa N. Morris, Michael J. Sullivan, and Karen A. Thornton.

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Raymond A. Mosley
Director of the Federal Register

John W. Carlin
Archivist of the United States

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Cabinet

Secretary of State	Madeleine K. Albright
Secretary of the Treasury	Robert E. Rubin
Secretary of Defense	William S. Cohen
Attorney General	Janet Reno
Secretary of the Interior	Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of Agriculture	Dan Glickman
Secretary of Commerce	William M. Daley
Secretary of Labor	Alexis M. Herman
Secretary of Health and Human Services	Donna E. Shalala
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Andrew M. Cuomo
Secretary of Transportation	Rodney E. Slater
Secretary of Energy	Bill Richardson
Secretary of Education	Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	Togo D. West, Jr.
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency	Carol M. Browner
United States Trade Representative	Charlene Barshefsky
Director of the Office of Management and Budget	Jacob J. Lew
Chief of Staff	John D. Podesta
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers	Janet Yellen

Director of National Drug Control Policy	Barry R. McCaffrey
Administrator of the Small Business Administration	Aida Alvarez
Director of Central Intelligence	George J. Tenet
Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency	James Lee Witt

Administration of William J. Clinton

1999