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viewed his work as a must-win struggle for the soul and future of the Nation. He knew that efforts to promote far-reaching social change, in a peaceful, nonviolent manner, would require patience, determination, and sacrifice. Yet, despite experiencing stubborn opposition, imprisonment, and even threats to his life, he also believed that the civil rights movement would prevail. ''We will reach the goal of freedom in Birmingham and all over the Nation,'' he wrote to his followers from jail, ''because the goal of America is freedom. . . . our destiny is tied up with America's destiny.''

With his inspired leadership and eloquent appeals to all who would listen, Martin Luther King set in motion a ground swell of change in the United States. The Civil Rights Act of 1957, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were critical milestones in the fight for equality under the law. Although Dr. King's assassination in 1968 at the age of 39 prevented his living to see the fulfillment of his dreams for America, his legacy has continued to challenge and inspire us. Over the years the United States has continued to eliminate legal and attitudinal barriers that have, in the past, limited opportunities on the basis of race. We must go on striving to realize Dr. King's vision of an America where individuals are ''not judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.''

While government plays a critical role in the fight against discrimination through the enforcement of civil rights laws and its own hiring practices, our efforts to promote racial harmony and justice in the United States must begin at home. Martin Luther King described the family as the ''main educational agency of mankind,'' and it is within the family that we must first teach lessons about love and fairness, decency and kindness, and the difference between right and wrong. We honor the legacy of Martin Luther King when we show our children, by word and example, what it means to lead ''a committed life''—a life dedicated to excellence and to the service of one's fellowman. We equip our children for such a life when we encourage them to recognize their own self-worth, as well as the inherent rights and worth of others. ''Every man is somebody,'' declared Dr. King, ''because he is a child of God.''

A minister by vocation, Martin Luther King sought righteous hearts as well as just laws. He warned that humankind suffered from ''a poverty of the spirit which stands in stark contrast to our scientific and technological abundance.'' In this last decade of the 20th century, as we marvel at the historic achievements of the past 100 years and anticipate the many to come, let us enrich our children with a wealth of encouragement, hope, and moral guidance—and with living examples of racial comity and friendship.

By Public Law 98–144, the third Monday in January of each year has been designated as a legal public holiday.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, 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 Monday, January 18, 1993, as the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday.

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

George Bush

[*Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:27 a.m., January 12, 1993*]

Note: *This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on January 13.*

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on Federal Advisory Committees

January 11, 1993

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

In accordance with the requirements of section 6(c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (Public Law 92–463; 5 U.S.C. App. 2, sec. 6(c)), I hereby transmit

the Twenty-first Annual Report on Federal Advisory Committees for fiscal year 1992.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Note: *Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate.*

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report of the Commodity Credit Corporation

January 11, 1993

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

In accordance with the provisions of section 13, Public Law 806, 80th Congress (15 U.S.C. 714k), I transmit herewith the report of the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 1989.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Note: *Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate.*

Remarks at a Disability Community Tribute to the President

January 12, 1993

Thank you all for this honor. You talk about a sea of friendly faces. I'll get in trouble for singling some out and leaving out others, but certainly Evan Kemp and Justin, Justin Dart; Dick and Ginny Thornburgh here; Pat Wright; Judi Chamberlin; Tom McKeithan; Doro, my daughter; King Jordan, Dr. I. King; and of course, Senator Bob Dole and other Members of Congress here. I think of my receiving this, and I think of all Bob has done over the years. I pale by comparison, my efforts. I see Steny Hoyer over here, who's committed and has worked very hard as a Member of Congress; Tony Coelho, the same thing, as a leader in the Congress; Norm Mineta here with us today; had a lovely letter from Tom Harkin—I can't remember ever agreeing with Tom Harkin on anything other than this—and he points that out to me in the letter. [*Laughter*] I think it bespeaks the breadth of the interest in the Americans with Disabilities Act, and I appreciate it very much. Of course, I'd be remiss if I didn't single out Boyden Gray, who was working very hard; and she and Pat going steady for a while as even she admitted. You talk about the odd couple, that's it. But nevertheless—[*laughter*].

But I make this point because this cause or this legislation really moved across all barriers. Whether it's liberal or conservative or Democrat or Republican, it was wonderful the way the people in this room and people all across this country came together to do something good.

And so I am very grateful to be over here. Doro is right; Barbara wanted to be here. And I wish she were here, because the more she packs boxes over there, the more irritable she gets. [*Laughter*] But serious—no, Bar, if you're listening—[*laughter*]. I know her.

But the irony is that so many people here today, because of their dedication and, yes, their hard work that led to the passage of the ADA, deserve to receive this honor. I really feel this way. Some of you have been fighting for that act for year after year after year. And on the eve of my departure from the Office of Presidency, I am just delighted to have this opportunity to meet again with those who shared in one of its finest moments, this country's finest moments: the proposal, the passage, and the signing of the most comprehensive civil rights bill in the history of this country and indeed the history of the world, the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ADA runs deep in the vein of the American tradition, and that is a belief in equal opportunity. We heard it over here from Ms. Chamberlin: devotion to individual rights, the ethic really of inclusion. Resisting the extremes of either negligence or patronization, the act reflects a conservative way of helping people, one that helps others help themselves.

At the beginning of this century, one African American bishop described his aspiration for civil rights saying, we ask not that others bear our burdens, but don't obstruct our