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Memorandum on Ending Discrimination in the Armed Forces

January 29, 1993

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Ending Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation in the Armed Forces

I hereby direct you to submit to me prior to July 15, 1993, a draft of an Executive order ending discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in determining who may serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. The draft of the Executive order should be accompanied by the results of a study to be conducted over the next six months on how this revision in policy would be carried out in a manner that is practical, realistic, and consistent with the high standards of combat effectiveness and unit cohesion our Armed Forces must maintain.

In preparing the draft, I direct you to consult fully with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the military services, with other Departments affected by the order, with the Congress, and with concerned individuals and organizations outside the executive branch.

William J. Clinton

Nomination of John A. Rollwagen To Be Deputy Secretary of Commerce

January 29, 1993

The President today nominated John A. Rollwagen, the head of the world's largest manufacturer of supercomputers, to be the Deputy Secretary of Commerce. Rollwagen is the chairman and CEO of Cray Research, Inc.

"The Department of Commerce will play a leading role in the development of a high skill, high wage economy," President Clinton said. "Having presided over a high skill, high wage corporation for 15 years, John Rollwagen can help us bring this about. As a proven CEO of a high technology company, Rollwagen is an innovative thinker and highly respected manager. He combines business savvy, international experience, and high technology knowledge. I'm convinced that he is the best choice to work together with Secretary Ron Brown to make the Commerce Department a powerful part of our administration's work of restoring the competitiveness of American business," said the President.

"In talking with leaders in the high tech industry," said Secretary Brown, "two things kept coming up. The first was the sense that this Department has the potential to facilitate an explosion of new job opportunities in the areas of high technology and telecommunications. The second thing that kept coming up was John Rollwagen's name. I'm thrilled that John has agreed to serve in this administration, and I'm thrilled that we have our first choice," said Brown.

Rollwagen, 52, has been president of Cray Research since 1977, and chief executive officer since 1980. He joined the company in 1975 as vice president of finance and led a successful campaign to capitalize the company as it moved into commercial production. His other business affiliations include memberships on the boards of directors for Apple Computer, Inc., Dayton-Hudson Corp., and Minnesota Public Radio. In 1987, Rollwagen was appointed by President Reagan to the Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations. President Bush reappointed him to the position in 1990.

Rollwagen earned a master's degree from Harvard Business School in 1964 and an electrical engineering degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1962.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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In the morning, the President had telephone conversations with President Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel.