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During my campaign for President, I promised a wholehearted commitment to achieving a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. A test ban can strengthen our efforts worldwide to halt the spread of nuclear technology in weapons. Last year, the Congress directed that a test ban be negotiated by 1996, and it established an interim moratorium on nuclear testing while we reviewed our requirements for further tests. That moratorium on testing expires soon. Congress said that after the moratorium expires, but before a test ban was achieved, the United States could carry out up to 15 nuclear tests to ensure the safety and reliability of our weapons. After a thorough review, my administration has determined that the nuclear weapons in the United States arsenal are safe and reliable. Additional nuclear tests could help us prepare for a test ban and provide for some additional improvements in safety and reliability. However, the price we would pay in conducting those tests now, by undercutting our own nonproliferation goals and ensuring that other nations would resume testing, outweighs these benefits.

I have therefore decided to extend the current moratorium on United States nuclear testing at least through September of next year, as long as no other nation tests. And I call on the other nuclear powers to do the same. If these nations will join us in observing this moratorium, we will be in the strongest possible position to negotiate a comprehensive test ban and to discourage other nations from developing their own nuclear arsenals.

If, however, this moratorium is broken by another nation, I will direct the Department of Energy to prepare to conduct additional tests while seeking approval to do so from Congress. I therefore expect the Department to maintain a capability to resume testing.

To assure that our nuclear deterrent remains unquestioned under a test ban, we will explore other means of maintaining our confidence in the safety, the reliability, and the performance of our own weapons. We will also refocus much of the talent and resources of our Nation's nuclear labs on new technologies to curb the spread of nuclear weapons and verify arms control treaties.

Beyond these significant actions, I am also taking steps to revitalize the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency so that it can play an active role in meeting the arms control and nonproliferation challenges of this new era. I am committed to protecting our people, deterring aggression, and combating terrorism. The work of combating proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is difficult and unending, but it is an essential part of this task. It must be done.

Americans have earned the right on this Fourth of July weekend to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in the new era America did so much to create. This moment of opportunity is the reward for our vigilance and sacrifice during the long years of the cold war.

We now have the freedom to concern ourselves not merely with survival but with prosperity for ourselves and our children. We have the strength and the stature to lead the world into a future of greater security and global growth.

Because of the changes we have made, America can now fulfill the dreams and aspirations of the patriots who made our freedom possible more than 200 years ago. We can do them no greater honor than to make the most of what these times have to offer. Working together, we will.

Have a happy and safe holiday, and thanks for listening.

NOTE: This address was recorded at 6:34 p.m. on July 2 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 3.

Statement on Signing the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1993

July 3, 1993

On February 17, I unveiled my national economic strategy to increase growth and job creation, to reduce the deficit and lower interest rates. The plan reflects my belief that the United States had to address long-stand-

ing economic problems so we could expand growth and opportunity for all Americans.

The long-term portion of the plan is nearing completion by the Congress. The House and Senate have adopted versions of the plan that reduce the deficit by $500 billion while providing needed investments in our country's future strength and job creating ability. However, the short-term component, a jobs bill designed to keep the recovery on track, was not adopted by the Congress.

While there are some optimistic signs—lower long-term interest rates, the lowest mortgage rates in twenty years, and the creation of nearly one million jobs since January—I am not satisfied with the performance of the economy, many Americans are still hurting, and others are uncertain about the future.

Because too many Americans are still without meaningful work, I was pleased to sign into law last night a modest job creating bill, H.R. 2118, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1993. This Act funds a variety of critical programs, including key targeted investments that I requested in February. Adoption of this law means that summer jobs will be created, local law enforcement will be able to hire back police laid off during the last recession, and small businesses will be able to expand their payrolls, products, and profits. It also provides funding that will benefit farmers adversely affected by weather conditions in the Midwest.

This bill does not nearly provide what I believe is necessary to help our economy. But every job it creates, every policeman or policewoman it rehires, every farm devastated by weather it assists, and every small business it enables to grow will make a difference to the people and communities served by this legislation.

These are among the provisions of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1993:

The Act provides $220 million for summer jobs for youth, including $50 million for the Youth Fair Chance Program. This new program will provide a comprehensive range of services to low-income youth in communities with high concentrations of poverty.

The Act provides $150 million for grants to State and local government to enhance public safety by hiring additional law enforcement personnel. These funds will help fight crime and offset layoffs resulting from fiscal restraints on local governments.

The Act provides $341 million to the Pell Student financial assistance program to help address a shortage of funding from previous years.

H.R. 2118 provides $175 million to support nearly $3.2 billion in SBA loan guarantees. Regular appropriations for SBA's primary lending programs were exhausted in late April, and the program has been shut down since then. The supplemental funds provided for SBA will allow thousands of businesses to receive loans for start-up, expansion, and working capital.

The Act provides $475 million for veterans compensation and pensions, and is necessary to ensure that payments continue to be made to veterans through the end of the fiscal year.

Honoring my commitment to provide additional assistance to victims of Hurricane Andrew, the bill makes available $271 million for disaster assistance through the Departments of Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development.

These funds are to be used to address the destruction caused by Hurricane Andrew, Hurricane Iniki, and Typhoon Omar and, in some cases, other Presidentially declared disasters as well. These funds are necessary to promote rebuilding and to respond effectively to the continuing need for disaster relief. In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, I join the Congress in designating the $63 million provided by the Act for agriculture disaster assistance as an emergency requirement.

The Act extends Federal crop disaster relief to farmers with disaster-related losses occurring prior to August 1, 1993, without appropriating additional disaster funds. Existing emergency funds are sufficient to pay roughly 15 cents for every dollar claimed. This provision will permit some assistance to farmers impacted by the recent floods in the Midwest. I have directed Agriculture Secretary Espy to submit to me a crop disaster assistance plan to provide additional assistance to these farmers.

The Act support $73 billion in loan guarantee authority to allow the FHA single- and multi-family mortgage insurance programs and the GNMA mortgage-backed securities program to continue operating through the rest of the year. Absent this supplemental, both programs would soon deplete their funding.

Finally, the Act provides $1.3 billion for the Department of Defense and partially offsets the additional funding with nearly $1 billion in rescissions. The additional funds are for the costs of Operation Restore Hope, Operation Southern Watch, and other requirements.

I commend the Congress for developing a supplemental appropriations bill that supports my investment program and meets urgent National needs.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 3, 1993.

NOTE: H.R. 2118, approved July 2, was assigned Public Law No. 103–50.

Remarks at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

July 4, 1993

Thank you very much, President de Klerk, Mr. Mandela, Senator Wofford, distinguished Members of Congress, Mayor Rendell and members of the Philadelphia city government, Judge Higginbotham, Reverend Sullivan, my fellow Americans.

As I flew here today from Washington over the farmlands and the small towns and the cities and I began to land here in Philadelphia, and I could see closely Americans of all kinds enjoying the blessings of liberty and the fruits of their labors, I couldn't help thinking that if the Founding Fathers were with us today, they would be proud of the work that they have done.

I do want to say a special word to two distinguished Pennsylvanians who, but for health reasons, would clearly be here with us today, a word of appreciation to them with whom I talked just a few moments ago, your brave Governor, Bob Casey, engaged in his heroic struggle; we all wish him well, and your distinguished Senator, Arlen Specter, who promised me he would be back to work soon. He did not promise me a vote, however. [*Laughter*]

On this, our Nation's birthday in our Nation's birthplace, all of us are part of a truly historic occasion as we welcome these two leaders in the journey to nonracial democracy in South Africa. Here they stand together, the head of state and the former political prisoner. We honor the dedication, the dignity, and the discipline of the ANC president, Nelson Mandela, who walked out of prison after 27 years, astonishingly still unbowed, unbroken, and unembittered. And we salute President de Klerk for his wisdom and his determination in moving to dismantle the destructive system of apartheid and his courage in asking his people to give up something that they have which is not fully legitimate so that they can live together in real harmony, real freedom, and real liberty. That, too, is an act of courage we should honor.

I believe that in their common endeavors they are working together to liberate all South Africans, to restore material wealth, and to bring spiritual health to their beloved country. Many Americans have stood for the cause of freedom in South Africa and now I tell you both: The United States stands ready to help the people of South Africa as they move forward on the journey of democracy.

Here where our own democracy is born, the United States today reaches out a helping hand to those who would build democracy in South Africa. We stand ready to help with voter education. We stand ready to help to heal the cruel legacies of apartheid, from unemployment to poor housing to inadequate education. We want to be your partner. This week when I travel to the summit of the world's leading industrial nations, I will work to include a new and democratic South Africa in the world economy and our common commitment to it.

And closer to home, my fellow Americans, we must rejoice today in the historic accord reached late last evening to restore democracy and its elected leader, President