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Statement on the 30th Anniversary of the Older Americans Act

July 14, 1995

Today I am pleased to mark the 30th anniversary of the Older Americans Act, an act which has allowed millions of elderly Americans to live with dignity, safety, and independence.

When President Johnson signed this bill into law 30 years ago, he characterized the best intentions of a Nation when he said:

''The Older Americans Act clearly affirms our Nation's sense of responsibility toward the well-being of all of our older citizens. But even more, the results of this act will help us to expand our opportunities for enriching the lives of all of our citizens in this country, now and in the years to come.''

Indeed, we should be proud of our Nation's compact with older Americans and the public private partnership that is embodied in the Older Americans Act. This compact has included community-based services such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, ombudsman services, and other efforts to prevent abuse of the elderly.

As the Congress considers reauthorization of the Older Americans Act this year, my administration is committed to keeping the act whole and preserving the core principles which have guided its success—grassroots support, citizen input, bottom-up planning, and coordination of services. Programs like the Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program have been instrumental in helping us all benefit from the accumulated experience and judgment of older Americans. I will fight to keep these programs strong and to maintain the active role of the national aging network in assisting elderly Americans.

While we commemorate an important anniversary today, every American should be proud that we have greatly improved the way our people live their lives as they grow older, providing new hope for entire lifetimes of purpose and dignity. We must remember that with this kind of opportunity in a democracy goes continued responsibility. Our job today is to preserve this progress not only for our current seniors in their lifetimes but for all generations of Americans to come.

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.

July 10

In the morning, the President traveled to Nashville, TN, where he visited the Vice President's mother, Pauline Gore, at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He returned to Washington, DC, in the afternoon.

In the evening, the President hosted a dinner for congressional leaders on the State Floor.

The White House announced that the President has invited Prime Minister P.J. Patterson of Jamaica for a working visit on September 13.

The President announced his intention to nominate Carl Spielvogel as a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the International Bureau of Broadcasting.

July 11

The President announced his intention to nominate Joseph H. Neely to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

July 12

The President declared a major disaster in West Virginia and ordered Federal funds to supplement State and local recovery efforts in communities struck by severe storms, heavy rain, and flash flooding on June 23–27.

The President announced his intention to nominate James Franklin Collins as Ambassador at Large and Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union.

The President announced his intention to nominate Joseph A. Presel for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Negotiator for Nagorno-Karabakh.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stanley Tuemler Escudero as Ambassador to Uzbekistan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Darcy E. Bradbury as Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to nominate Joe Scroggins, Jr., as Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be members of the National Commission on Crime Control and Prevention:

—Lee Fisher, Chair;
—Dennis Wayne Archer;
—Paul Helmke;
—Deborah Prothrow-Stith;
—Andrew J. Shookhoff; and
—Esta Soler.

July 13

In the morning, the President met with President Nicephore Soglo of Benin in the Oval Office. Following their meeting, the President hosted a working lunch for President Soglo in the Old Family Dining Room.

In the late afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with President Jacques Chirac of France to discuss the situation in Bosnia.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany to discuss the situation in Bosnia. He and Hillary Clinton then attended a fundraiser at a private residence in Sandy Spring, MD.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Paul Dombeck as Director of the Bureau of Land Management at the Department of the Interior.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles H. Twining as Ambassador to Cameroon.

July 14

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton went to the Central Intelligence Agency in Langley, VA, where they participated in a wreath-laying ceremony.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom to discuss the situation in Bosnia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Greta Joy Dicus to serve as a Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald S. Wasserman to the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted July 10

Cheryl F. Halpern,
of New Jersey, to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of one year (new position).

Marc B. Nathanson,
of California, to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of 3 years (new position).

Stanley A. Riveles,
of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Commissioner to the Standing Consultative Commission.

Carl Spielvogel,
of New York, to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of one year (new position).

John R. Tunheim,
of Minnesota, to be a U.S. District Judge for the District of Minnesota, vice Donald D. Alsop, retired.

Submitted July 12

James Franklin Collins,
of Illinois, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador at Large and Special Adviser to the Secretary of State on the New Independent States.