

Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



Monday, August 12, 1996
Volume 32—Number 32
Pages 1397-1441

Contents

Addresses and Remarks

- See also* Bill Signings
- California
- Community in the Port of Long Beach—1432
 - Community in Salinas—1425
 - Community in San Jose—1419
 - Departure for San Jose—1417
 - Saxophone Club in Santa Monica—1436
- George Washington University—1404
- NASA discovery of possible life on Mars—1417
- Paralympic torch relay—1410
- Radio address—1399
- U.S. Olympic team, ceremony honoring—1416
- United Steel Workers convention—1423

Bill Signings

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997, statement—1414
- Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1996, statement—1415
- Food Quality Protection Act of 1996
- Remarks—1400
 - Statement—1402
- Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996, remarks—1403
- National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act, statement—1402
- Romania, most-favored-nation status legislation, statement—1402

Bill Signings—Continued

- Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996
- Remarks—1412
 - Statement—1413

Communications to Congress

- Canada-U.S. protocol for the protection of migratory birds, message transmitting—1397
- Illegal immigration legislation, letter—1398
- Organizations which threaten the Middle East peace process, letter reporting—1431
- U.N. convention to combat desertification with annexes, message transmitting—1397

Executive Orders

- Amending Executive Order No. 10163, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal—1415

Interviews With the News Media

- Exchanges with reporters
- Oval Office—1403
 - South Lawn—1417

Statements by the President

- See also* Bill Signings
- Japan-U.S. semiconductor agreement—1397
- Veterans' Medicare reimbursement model project, proposed legislation—1430

Supplementary Materials

- Acts approved by the President—1441
- Checklist of White House press releases—1440
- Digest of other White House announcements—1439
- Nominations submitted to the Senate—1440

Editor's Note: The President was in Jackson Hole, WY, on August 9, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under

regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 FR 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

Distribution is made only by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* will be furnished by mail to domestic subscribers for \$80.00 per year (\$137.00 for mailing first class) and to foreign subscribers for \$93.75 per year, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The charge for a single copy is \$3.00 (\$3.75 for foreign mailing).

There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*.

Week Ending Friday, August 9, 1996

Statement on the Japan-United States Semiconductor Agreement

August 2, 1996

I want to congratulate Ambassador Barshefsky and her entire negotiating team on the agreement reached today on semiconductors. Their tireless efforts to advance our Nation's economic interests around the world have reaped enormous benefits for America's businesses and workers.

This agreement achieves our goals of transparency and monitoring of the semiconductor market to assure market access for our companies. The semiconductor industry serves as an engine for growth and jobs and has regained its position as world leader in semiconductor production.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Canada-United States Protocol for the Protection of Migratory Birds

August 2, 1996

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Protocol between the United States and Canada Amending the 1916 Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds in Canada and the United States, with a related exchange of notes, signed at Washington on December 14, 1995.

The Protocol, which is discussed in more detail in the accompanying report of the Secretary of State, represents a considerable achievement for the United States in conserving migratory birds and balancing the interests of conservationists, sports hunters, and indigenous people. If ratified and properly implemented, the Protocol should further enhance the management and protec-

tion of this important resource for the benefit of all users.

The Protocol would replace a protocol with a similar purpose, which was signed January 30, 1979, (Executive W, 96th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1980)), and which I, therefore, desire to withdraw from the Senate.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Protocol, with exchange of notes, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 2, 1996.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification With Annexes

August 2, 1996

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, with Annexes, adopted at Paris, June 17, 1994, and signed by the United States on October 14, 1994. The report of the Department of State is also enclosed for the information of the Senate.

The purpose of the Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought on arid, semi-arid, and dry sub-humid lands through effective action at all levels. In particular, the Convention addresses the fundamental causes of famine and food insecurity in Africa, by stimulating more effective partnership between governments, local communities, nongovernmental organi-

zations, and aid donors, and by encouraging the dissemination of information derived from new technology (e.g., early warning of impending drought) to farmers.

The United States has strongly supported the Convention's innovative approach to combatting dryland degradation. I believe it will help Africans and others to make better use of fragile resources without requiring increased development assistance. Ratification by the United States would promote effective implementation of the Convention and is likely to encourage similar action by other countries whose participation would also promote effective implementation.

United States obligations under the Convention would be met under existing law and ongoing assistance programs.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to this Convention and its Annexes, with the declaration described in the accompanying report of the Secretary of State, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 2, 1996.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Letter to the Speaker of the House on Illegal Immigration Legislation *August 2, 1996*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Reversing decades of neglect, this Administration has dedicated unprecedented resources and enforcement effort to curtailing illegal immigration. Our comprehensive strategy to restore the rule of law to illegal immigration enforcement has done more in three years than was done in thirty years before. It includes:

1) *Gaining control of our borders.* This Administration is deploying more Border Patrol agents than any previous Administration. In FY 1996, we will deploy an additional 1,000 new and reassigned agents. Overall, the Administration has increased the number of Border Patrol agents at the southwest border by 40%

since 1993. For the first time, Border Patrol agents are being equipped with the high technology resources needed to do the job, including sensors, night scopes, computers and encrypted radios. Strengthened anti-smuggling efforts have reduced the criminal transport and exploitation of smuggled aliens.

2) *Safeguarding the interests of legal workers.* This Administration is the first to initiate effective enforcement of employer sanctions and worksite standards. In addition, I issued an Executive Order to keep federal contracts from going to businesses that knowingly hire illegal workers. We are also testing a computer work authorization verification system and are creating more fraud-resistant immigration documents.

3) *Removing criminal and other deportable aliens from the country.* In 1995, this Administration removed a record number of criminal and other illegal aliens from this country—74% more than in FY 1990.

Most of H.R. 2202, the Immigration in the National Interest Act, supports the steps we have taken. I continue to urge Congress to pass these provisions and present me with the additional tools that I need to continue the progress we have made.

However, there is a right way and a wrong way to fight illegal immigration. The Gallegly Amendment and the compromise being considered during the conference process would result in kicking children out of school and onto the streets. The street is no place for children to learn; children should be in school. This proposal is an unacceptable and ineffective way to fight illegal immigration. And the proposed compromise—which will still require states to verify the immigration status of all children, and permit states to exclude those who cannot afford to pay tuition—is as objectionable as the original provision. Congress should reject it.

If the immigration bill contains this provision, I will veto it. We can agree on so much in the legislation that would help what we are already doing. Let us move forward with

illegal immigration enforcement legislation without this misguided measure.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 3.

The President's Radio Address

August 3, 1996

Good morning. Today I'm pleased to announce a major step for protecting the health and safety of all Americans, especially our children. In a few moments I'll sign into law legislation that will revolutionize the way we protect our food from harmful pesticides. This is a positive and hopeful time, an age of enormous possibility for our people, a chance for us to build a country and a world that is stronger and safer and more full of opportunity than any that has existed before.

The way we will master this moment of change is the way we always have, by meeting our challenges and holding fast to our enduring values. Central among these is the belief that American families are owed some basic security. They should know that the food they eat and the water they drink will not make them sick.

From the day I took office I've worked hard to meet this fundamental promise. We strengthened and expanded the community right to know law, which requires industries to tell our citizens exactly what substances are being released into the world around us. Last year we put in place strong new protections to ensure that the seafood we eat is safe, and last month I announced steps to revamp our meat and poultry inspection system for the first time in 90 years.

Today we add the cornerstone to the solid foundation we've built for America's families, the Food Quality Protection Act. Three years ago I proposed reforms to overhaul and strengthen the way we regulate pesticides. This landmark legislation meets the goals I set forth then. I like to think of it as the "peace of mind" act, because it will give parents the peace of mind that comes from knowing that the fruits, vegetables, and grains they set down in front of their children are safe.

This legislation is long overdue. The old safeguards that protected our foods from pesticides were written with the best intentions, but they're simply no longer up to the job. Bad pesticides have stayed on the market too long; good alternatives have been kept out. There are strong protections against cancer but not against other health dangers. There is no uniform standard for what is safe.

Those weaknesses in the present law put us all at risk, but especially our children. According to the National Academy of Sciences, infants and young people are particularly vulnerable to pesticides; chemicals can go a long way in a small body. The Food Quality Protection Act puts the safety of our children first. First, it sets clear, consistent standards for all pesticide use on all foods for all health risks. It also sets that standard high. If a pesticide poses a danger to our children, then it won't be in our food, period.

Second, the act will reform the regulatory process for pesticides. New, safer substitutes will be approved faster. The sooner they get on the market, the sooner farmers will be able to use them to replace older pesticides that may pose greater health risks. All pesticides will be reviewed regularly using the best science available.

Third, this legislation will see to it that consumers get the facts they need. Supermarkets will be required to provide health information to shoppers about the pesticides used on the food they're buying. A family should be able to gather for a summer dinner knowing that the fruits and vegetables before them will provide nothing more than nourishment and joy. Americans have enough on their minds without having to worry about whether or not the food they eat will put them in harm's way. With this legislation, Americans will continue to have the security of knowing that the world's most bountiful food supply is also its safest.

Just as important as what this law does is how it came into being. The Food Quality Protection Act comes to my desk with the support of farmers and environmentalists, consumer groups and agriculture groups and the medical industry. After more than a decade of work, these diverse groups have come together to say with this bill, we do not have

to choose between a strong economy and a safe environment. We can have both.

This bill also comes to the White House with the unanimous backing of all Republicans and all Democrats in Congress. What a difference a year makes. Last August, we were fighting off a concerted effort to roll back our most basic safeguards for clean air, clean water, and clean food. Our traditional bipartisan commitment to protecting the public health and our environment was at risk. Today, on this issue, I'm proud to say that we again stand on common ground.

That is how we must meet all the challenges of our time, not by drifting apart but by coming together. In the last week, members of both parties have joined in common cause to do what's best for America, to end welfare as we know it, to raise the minimum wage and aid small businesses, to pass health care reform, and to safeguard our food. Last night, Congress passed strong legislation to help keep our drinking water safe. This is truly a season of progress because we're turning away from extremism and coming together around our basic values of opportunity, responsibility, and community. If we keep it up, we surely will make this an age of possibility for all Americans.

Thank for listening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House.

Remarks on Signing the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996

August 3, 1996

Thank you very much. Thank you all for being here today. I'm delighted to see you. I know that a lot of you have come from a very long way away, and I know that was an extreme effort. But I think in some ways the most extreme effort was made by the Members of Congress who are here because they finished an exhaustive and very productive week late last night, and I can't believe they're still around in Washington, and I want to thank them for staying: Chairman Bliley; Chairman Roberts; Congressmen Waxman, Bilirakis, Condit, Dooley, and Richardson.

And I'd like to say a special word of thanks not only to Congressman Dingell but to Congressman Fazio, who is not here, who also worked on this bill, and to Senator Heflin and Senator Leahy and Senator Lugar and my friend Senator Pryor, who worked on this bill, who is not here. And I want to thank the Agriculture Department. Deputy Secretary Rominger is here and the FDA Commissioner Kessler. And I'd like to thank the members of the administration, especially Carol Browner and Katie McGinty.

I'd like to thank the Vice President, who told me that he held the first hearings on dealing with this issue 15 years ago in the Congress. This issue has been around a long time, and it's a great, great day. I'd also like to say that the happiest person in the administration today is Leon Panetta, because in his other life he is a walnut farmer. [*Laughter*] But I assure you this is not special interest legislation. [*Laughter*] There's nothing in here with a disproportionate impact on Italian walnut farmers from northern California—[*laughter*—that is, to the best of my knowledge there is nothing.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are here today in celebration, and we should be immensely proud of the Food Quality Protection Act that will revolutionize the way we protect food from harmful pesticides. It proves we don't have to choose between a healthy environment and a healthy economy. It shows when we come together across party lines and do the right thing for the American people we can get real results. This is important, not only for what was done but for how it was done, and I want to thank everyone here who has been a part of it.

From the day I took office I have worked hard to meet what I think is a fundamental promise that we should make to our people. People should know the food they eat and the water they drink will not make them sick. We strengthened and expanded the community right to know law, which requires industries to tell our citizens what substances are being released into the world around us. Last year we put in place strong new protections to ensure that seafood is safe. Last month we announced steps to revamp our meat and poultry inspection system for the first time in 90 years.

Today we add the cornerstone to this solid foundation with the Food Quality Protection Act. I like to think of it as the “peace of mind act,” because it’ll give parents the peace of mind that comes from knowing that the fruits, the vegetables, the grains that they put down in front of their children are safe. It’s long overdue. The old safeguards that protected our food from pesticides were written with the best of intentions, but they weren’t up to the job. And as you can see from the vast array of support here across every sector of American life, nobody liked them very much and no one thought that they really worked as they were supposed to. Bad pesticides stayed on the market too long; good alternatives were kept out. In this new provision we deal with the problem of existing law, which is that there are strong protections against cancer but not against other health dangers. There is simply no uniform standard for what’s safe.

These weaknesses in the present law cause real problems for everyone involved in producing and distributing our food and for, most of all, the people who consume it, especially our children. According to the National Academy of Sciences, infants and young people are especially vulnerable to pesticides; chemicals can go a long way in a small body.

This act puts the safety of our children first. It sets a clear, consistent standard for all pesticide use on all foods for all health risks. It sets a standard high—if a pesticide poses a danger to our children, it won’t be in our food, period. The act will reform the regulatory process for pesticides so that new and safer substitutes will be approved faster, and this is also very important. The sooner they get on the markets, the sooner farmers will be able to use them to replace older pesticides that may pose greater health risks. The pesticides will be reviewed regularly using the best science available.

Third, this legislation will see to it that consumers get the information they need. Supermarkets will be required to provide health information to shoppers about the pesticides used on food they’re buying. A family ought to be able to gather for a summer dinner knowing that the food before them will provide nothing more than nourishment and joy. Americans have enough on their minds with-

out having to worry about that. With this legislation, Americans will continue to know that the world’s most bountiful food supply is also its safest.

And as I said before, to me, almost as important as what the law does is how it was done. This act comes to our desk—to my desk and to our administration—with the support of farmers and environmentalists, consumer groups and agribusiness, and the medical community. After more than a decade of work, these groups have come together to say with this bill, “We do not have to choose between a clean environment and a safe food supply and a strong economy. If we do it right, we can have both.” It comes with the unanimous backing of every Member of Congress in both parties. And I must say, I am gratified to see this, because I see this effort to preserve the environment in a way that will permit us to grow the economy as an essential component of our national security in the 21st century.

Last year we were fighting about efforts to weaken our most basic safeguards for clean air, clean water, safe food. Now we see a bipartisan public commitment to the public health. This is an area where we stand on common ground. And as a people, we should continue to stand on common ground.

I want to compliment the Congress for the work that was done in this last week, moving people from welfare to work, raising the minimum wage, helping small businesses, passing health care reform, making this effort to safeguard our food. Last night Congress passed strong legislation to help keep our drinking water safe. This has been a very good season of progress, turning away from extremism toward common ground, around opportunity, responsibility, and community. I am very pleased. I thank the Members of Congress here for their leadership. And I thank the American people, and especially those here represented, for making this day happen.

We’re going to do the bill signing now, and I want to invite the children who have come from around the country here to come up, and the Members of Congress to come up for the bill signing.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. H.R. 1627, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-170.

Statement on Signing the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996

August 3, 1996

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 1627, the "Food Quality Protection Act of 1996," which brings much needed reform to laws governing pesticides and food safety.

Americans have every right to expect that the world's most bountiful food supply will also be the world's safest. Early in my Administration I set out to strengthen our pesticide and food safety laws. This Act achieves that goal with commonsense regulatory reform based on the best available science.

The Act will replace conflicting and outdated pesticide residue standards with a single, rigorous health-based standard for all food. All pesticides will be required to meet the new standard. Incentives are also provided for swift approval of safe, new pesticide alternatives for farmers.

Most importantly, H.R. 1627 contains special new provisions to protect America's infants and children from pesticide risks. These protections will guarantee that every family in America has the safest food possible on their dinner table.

This Act demonstrates how the Congress and the Administration can work together to help both farmers and consumers, and I am pleased to sign it into law.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 3, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 1627, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-170.

Statement on Signing the National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act

August 3, 1996

Today I have signed into law H.R. 497, the "National Gambling Impact Study Com-

mission Act." This legislation will establish a Commission to conduct a comprehensive study of the social and economic impacts of gambling in the United States.

The Commission will help draw attention to the growth of the gambling industry and its consequences. Too often, public officials view gambling as a quick and easy way to raise revenues, without focusing on gambling's hidden social, economic, and political costs. The Commission will report on all of the effects of gambling to the President and the Congress.

The Commission's study will address various types of betting, whether conducted in a casino, on a riverboat, on the Internet, on an Indian reservation, or anywhere else in the United States. In addition, the study will address gambling sponsored by governmental, commercial, philanthropic, or charitable entities. Such a balanced study will be invaluable to public officials as they make policy decisions concerning this important issue.

The legislation grants the Commission limited subpoena authority to get the information it needs to carry out its purpose, while protecting the privacy of individuals and businesses. The bill also authorizes the Commission to request information from any Federal agency, which may use its discretion and judgment in withholding privileged and sensitive information.

My Administration supported the establishment of this Commission, and I am pleased to sign this bill into law.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 3, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 497, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-169.

Statement on Signing Legislation on Most-Favored-Nation Status for Romania

August 3, 1996

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 3161, authorizing the termination of the application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 to Romania. Under the provisions of this bill,

the President may grant permanent most-favored-nation (MFN) status to Romania.

This is an important milestone in U.S.-Romanian relations. Romania now joins other emerging democracies in Central Europe from which the United States has fully removed trade restrictions that originated in concerns about emigration practices during the Cold War. My approval of this bill reflects the strong U.S. support for the citizens of Romania in their efforts to overcome the legacy of decades of communist repression and to establish a full democracy based on respect for human rights, the rule of law, tolerance, and free market economics.

This legislation enjoys strong bipartisan support in the United States, and I note that the granting of permanent MFN has the support of many Romanian leaders across the political spectrum.

Romania's excellent record in respecting the right of free emigration, its considerable progress in establishing the fundamentals of a free market democracy and its strong cooperation with the United States helped facilitate passage of this bill. I am confident that Romania, as it proceeds toward integration with the Western democratic community, will continue its progress and intensify efforts to make democratic, free market reforms, develop good relations with its democratic neighbors and reach out to Romania's ethnic and religious minorities.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 3, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3161, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 104-171.

Remarks on Signing the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 and an Exchange With Reporters

August 5, 1996

The President. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. It's good to be joined today by Senator D'Amato and Congressmen Cardin, Gejdenson, Gilman, King, and Matsui; family members of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103; and two brave Americans who suffered

the nightmare of being taken hostage in the Middle East.

We come together around the common commitment to strengthen our fight against terrorism. Terrorism has many faces, to be sure, but Iran and Libya are two of the most dangerous supporters of terrorism in the world. The Iran and Libya sanctions bill I sign today will help to deny those countries the money they need to finance international terrorism. It will limit the flow of resources necessary to obtain weapons of mass destruction. It will heighten pressure on Libya to extradite the suspects in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103.

From the skies over Lockerbie to Khobar Towers, from the World Trade Center to Centennial Park, America has felt the pain of terrorism abroad and at home. From the Tokyo subway to the streets of Tel Aviv, we know that no nation is immune. We have not yet solved all these tragedies; we will not rest until we do so. But one thing is clear: To succeed in this battle we need to wage it together, as one America leading the community of civilized nations.

Our Nation is fighting terrorism on three fronts: first, abroad, through closer cooperation with our allies; second, at home, by giving our law enforcement officials the most powerful counterterrorism tools available; and, third, by improving security in our airports and on our airplanes. Last week in Paris, with America's leadership, the G-7 nations and Russia agreed on a sweeping set of measures to prevent terrorists from acting and to catch them when they do. We have seen that when we pool our strength we can obtain results. We will continue to press our allies to join with us in increasing the pressure on Iran and Libya to stop their support of terrorists. We already have acted ourselves, through our own sanctions, and with this legislation we are asking our allies to join with us more effectively.

With this legislation we strike hard where it counts, against those who target innocent lives and our very way of life. It shows we are fully prepared to act to restrict the funds to Iran and Libya that fuel terrorist attacks. America will not rest, and I resolve to hunt down, prosecute, and punish terrorists and to put pressure on states that support them.

The survivors of terrorism, the families of its victims who surround me, and all the American people deserve nothing less.

[At this point, the President signed the legislation.]

The President. Thank you all very much.

Extraterritorial Impact of Sanctions

Q. Mr. President, France says the Europeans will retaliate if this measure is implemented.

The President. Well, of course that's their decision to make. But every advanced country is going to have to make up its mind whether it can do business with people by day who turn around and fuel attacks on their innocent civilians by night. That's a decision that every country's going to have to make.

I will say this, I am encouraged that we are doing more with our allies than before to fight terrorism and that there is broader agreement than there has been before on specific measures. But in extreme cases where we disagree and where it is obvious that basically turning away from the implications of state support of terrorism has not worked, the United States has to act. And I can only hope that some day soon, all countries will come to realize that you simply can't do business with people by day who are killing your people by night.

Robert Dole's Tax Cut Proposal

Q. Mr. President, what do you think of Senator Dole's apparent plan to cut taxes 15 percent, 50 percent on capital gains, and so forth. Will it hurt you?

The President. Well, the most important thing is: Will it hurt the American people? And I favor targeted tax cuts for education that are paid for. I am unalterably opposed to going back to the mistake we made before in having big tax cuts that are not paid for. It will balloon the deficit, raise interest rates, and weaken the economy. That's the only thing that matters: What impact will it have on the American people?

Thank you very much. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:42 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. H.R. 3107, approved August 5, was assigned Public Law No. 104-172.

Remarks on American Security in a Changing World at George Washington University

August 5, 1996

Thank you very much. President Trachtenberg, I was in the neighborhood so I thought I'd drop by. [Laughter] Dean Harding, members of the George Washington University community, Congressman Cardin, Congressman King, Congressman Matsui, Senator McGovern, thank you for coming, sir. Delighted to see you. And by the way, thank you for writing your brave book about your daughter and for going around the country and talking about her. Thank you so much. I want to thank the family members of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 who are here with me today, as well as two of those who were held hostage in Iran back in 1980 who are here today—and '79. Thank you for coming.

I'm pleased to be back here at George Washington, especially as you celebrate your 175th anniversary. President James Monroe signed the congressional charter establishing GW. I can only applaud his wisdom and hope that 175 years from now our administration will be associated with a similarly proud legacy. I think he would be very proud if he could see what GW has become.

Last night the centennial Olympics came to an end. It was a great Olympics for America not only because of the triumphs of our athletes but also because of the magnificent job done by the city of Atlanta and all the other hosts. But in a larger sense, it was a great event not just for Americans but for people everywhere who believe in peace and freedom, who believe in individual achievement and common effort.

I believe we love the Olympics because they work the way we think the world ought to work. They are possible because all different kinds of people come together in mutual respect and mutual acceptance of the rules of the games. No one wins by breaking their opponent's legs or by bad-mouthing their opponents in a public forum. Instead, victory comes from doing well in a good way. And all who strive are honored, as we saw when our volunteers cleared the track for the

brave, injured marathon runner who was the very last finisher in the race.

Most individuals and teams from the 197 competing nations did not win any medal, but they all had their chance, did their best, and were better for their efforts. That is what we want for our country and the world at the edge of a new century and a new millennium.

In the world of the 21st century, the Olympic way will become possible in the lives of more people than ever before. More people than ever before will have the chance to live their dreams. The explosion of knowledge, communication, travel, and trade will bring us all closer together in the global village. But as we saw in that terrible moment of terror in Centennial Park, this new openness also makes us more vulnerable to the forces of destruction that know no national boundaries.

The pipe bomb reminded us, as did the murder of 19 fine American service men in Saudi Arabia and the still unresolved crash of TWA 800, that if we want the benefits of this new world we must defeat the forces who would destroy it by killing the innocent, to strike fear and burn hatred into the hearts of the rest of us. This is a lesson and a responsibility every American must accept. As the mayor of Montoursville, a town of just 5,000 people in Pennsylvania that lost 21 of its brightest hopes for the future on TWA Flight 800, said, "No matter how secluded and how innocent we are, once we leave our community we're subject to the troubles of the outside world."

America faces three great challenges as we enter the 21st century: keeping the American dream alive for all who are willing to work for it; bringing our own country together, not dividing it; and making sure America remains the strongest force in the world for peace and freedom, security and prosperity.

I come to this place of learning and reason, a place so focused on the future, to explain why we cannot meet our own challenges of opportunity and responsibility and community unless we also maintain our indispensable role of leadership for peace and freedom in the world.

The worldwide changes in how people work, live, and relate to each other are the

fastest and perhaps the most profound in history. Most of these changes are good: The cold war is over; our country is at peace; our economy is strong; democracy and free markets are taking root on every continent. The blocs, the barriers, the borders that defined the world for our parents and grandparents are giving way, with the help of a new generation of extraordinary technology. Every day millions of people use laptops, modems, CD-ROM's, and satellites to send ideas and products and money all across the planet in seconds. The opportunities to build a safer world and a more prosperous future are enormous.

But for all the promise of our time, we are not free from peril. Fascism and communism may be dead or discredited, but the forces of destruction live on. We see them in the sudden explosions of ethnic, racial, religious, and tribal hatred. We see them in the reckless acts of rogue states. We see them especially in the dangerous webs of new threats of terrorism, international crime and drug trafficking, and the continuing threat that weapons of mass destruction might spread across the globe. These forces of destruction find opportunity in the very openness, freedom, and progress we cherish.

We must recognize that modern technologies by themselves will not make for us a new world of peace and freedom. Technology can be used for good or evil. American leadership is necessary to assure that the consequences are good. That is why we have worked so hard to seize the opportunities created by change and to move swiftly and strongly against the new threats that change has produced.

To seize the opportunities, we are strengthening our alliances, dramatically reducing the danger of weapons of mass destruction, leading the march for peace and democracy throughout the world, and creating much greater prosperity at home by opening markets to American products abroad.

Our alliances are the bedrock of American leadership. As we saw in the Gulf war, in Haiti, and now in Bosnia, many other nations who share our goals will also share our burdens. In Europe we have supported the forces of democracy and reform in the

former Soviet Union, the removal of Russian troops from the Baltics, and led the way to opening NATO's doors to Europe's new democracies through the Partnership For Peace, as Europe, the main battleground for the bloodiest century in history, is finally coming together peacefully.

In Asia we have revitalized our security alliance with Japan, joined with South Korea to promote lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, and worked steadily to encourage the emergence of a strong, stable, open China. The end of the cold war has also allowed us to lift the dark cloud of nuclear fear that had hung over our heads for 50 years. Today not a single Russian missile is pointed at our citizens or cities. We are cutting Russian and American arsenals by two-thirds from their cold war height. We helped Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan to give up their nuclear weapons which were left on their land when the Soviet Union dissolved.

We are working with Japan and Korea, and we have persuaded North Korea to freeze the dangerous nuclear program it had been developing for over a decade. We have advanced the struggle for peace and freedom. When people live free and at peace, we are more secure because they are less likely to resort to violence or to abuse human rights, and more likely to be better trading partners and partners in our common struggle against terrorism, international crime and drug trafficking, environmental degradation.

Because America is taking those risks for peace and democracy, the dictators are gone from Haiti. Democracy is back and the flow of desperate refugees has stopped. In Bosnia the snipers' killing fields have become children's playing fields once again. In Northern Ireland and the Middle East, though difficulties remain, conflicts that once seemed unsolvable are moving closer to resolution.

None of these struggles is easy. There is no guarantee of success. But we will continue to work for success, and we will make a difference.

Finally, we have seized the opportunity to better our people's lives at home by opening markets abroad. The true measure of our security includes not only physical safety but economic well-being as well. Decades from now people will look back on this period and

see the most far-reaching changes in the world trading system in generations, changes that are good for the American people, changes that include 200 new trade agreements, including GATT and NAFTA, the Summit of the Americas, the Asian-Pacific leaders' commitment to bring down trade barriers. Because of these changes America is the world's number one exporter again, and we have a million new high-paid jobs as a result.

Now, none of these achievements just happened. They came about because we worked with others to share the risk and cost of engagement, because we used the power of our example and, where necessary, the example of our power. They happened because we were willing to make tough choices today knowing they would pay off for you tomorrow. Above all, they happened because we refused to listen to those who said that with the cold war over America could choose escapism over engagement. Had we done so we would have weakened the world's reach for freedom and tolerance and prosperity and undermined our own security and prosperity.

The fact is America remains the indispensable nation. There are times when America and only America can make a difference between war and peace, between freedom and repression, between hope and fear. Of course, we can't take on all the world's burden. We cannot become its policemen. But where our interests and values demand it and where we can make a difference, America must act and lead.

Nowhere is that responsibility more clear or more urgent than in the struggle against terrorism. No one is immune, whether you're riding a subway in Tokyo or a bus in Tel Aviv, whether you're window shopping in London or walking the streets in Moscow, whether you're doing your duty in Saudi Arabia or going to work in Oklahoma City. Terrorism has become an equal opportunity destroyer, with no respect for borders.

Whether we like it or not, in ways both good and bad we are living in an interdependent world. That's why we must break down the walls in our mind between foreign and domestic policy. And I might say, Mr. President, on this 175th anniversary, that is one of the intellectual objectives that I hope

our great universities will commit themselves to.

The reality is our personal, community, and national prosperity depend upon our policies on economics in trade at home and abroad. Our personal, community, and national well-being depends upon our policies on the environment at home and abroad. Most dramatically, our personal, community, and national security depend upon our policies on terrorism at home and abroad. We cannot advance the common good at home without also advancing the common good around the world. We cannot reduce the threats to our people without reducing threats to the world beyond our borders. That's why the fight against terrorism must be both a national priority and a national security priority.

We have pursued a concerted national and international strategy against terrorism on three fronts: First, beyond our borders, by working more closely than ever with our friends and allies; second, here at home, by giving law enforcement the most powerful counterterrorism tools available; and third, in our airports and airplanes by increasing aviation security.

This will be a long, hard struggle. There will be setbacks along the way. But just as no enemy could drive us from the fight to meet our challenges and protect our values in World War II and the cold war, we will not be driven from the tough fight against terrorism today. Terrorism is the enemy of our generation, and we must prevail.

First, on the international front, stopping the spread of terrorism clearly requires common action. The United States has a special responsibility to lead in this effort. Over the past 4 years, our intelligence services have been sharing more information than ever with other nations. We've opened up a law enforcement academy in Budapest which is training people from 23 nations, an FBI office in Moscow, and just last Friday, Congress gave us the funding for FBI offices in Cairo, Islamabad, Tel Aviv, and Beijing.

We've requested more money for intelligence in 1997. This focus is making a difference. As the Senate intelligence committee concluded in its 1996 report on the intelligence authorization bill, the work of U.S.

intelligence agencies against terrorism has been an example of effective coordination and information sharing.

I've also worked to rally other nations to the fight against terrorism: last year at the U.N. General Assembly; this spring at the historic Summit of Peacemakers at Sharm al-Sheikh, where 29 nations, including 13 Arab nations, for the first time condemned terrorism in Israel and anywhere else it occurs in the Middle East and throughout the world; at the G-7 Summit in Lyons and the recently held follow-on conference we called for in Paris, where we were represented ably by the Attorney General.

Now, the point of all these efforts with other countries is not to talk but to act. More countries are acting with us. More countries are taking the "no sanctuary" pledge and living up to their extradition laws so that terrorists have no place to run or hide. More countries are helping us to shut down the gray markets that outfit terrorists with weapons and false documents.

Last week in Paris, the G-7 nations and Russia agreed to pursue a sweeping set of measures to prevent terrorists from acting and to catch them if they do. And we set timetables with specific dates by which progress must be made. We're also working with Saudi Arabia to improve the security of our forces stationed there, so that we can continue to deter aggression by rogue states and stand against terrorism in the Middle East.

After Khobar Towers, I immediately ordered investigations by the FBI and a commission headed by General Wayne Downing, which is to report to me later this month. While it's too early to reach conclusions, these investigations are moving aggressively in cooperation with our host. And we are working with the Saudi Government to move almost all our troops to other bases to better protect them from terrorist attacks.

Even though we're working more closely with our allies than ever and there is more agreement on what needs to be done than ever, we do not always agree. Where we don't agree, the United States cannot and will not refuse to do what we believe is right. That's why we have maintained or strengthened sanctions against states that sponsor terror-

ism: Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Sudan. You cannot do business with countries that practice commerce with you by day while funding or protecting the terrorists who kill you and your innocent civilians by night. That is wrong. I hope and expect that before long our allies will come around to accepting this fundamental truth.

This morning I signed into law the Iran-Libya sanctions act. It builds on what we've already done to isolate those regimes by imposing tough penalties on foreign companies that go forward with new investments in key sectors. The act will help to deny them the money they need to finance international terrorism or to acquire weapons of mass destruction. It will increase the pressure on Libya to extradite the suspects in the bombing of Pan Am 103.

With us today, as I said before, are some of those families and the loved ones of other victims of terrorism sponsored by Iran and Libya. Let me repeat the pledge I made to them earlier. We will not rest in our efforts to track down, prosecute, and punish terrorists and to keep the heat on those who support them. And we must not rest in that effort.

The second part of our strategy is to give American law enforcement officials the most powerful tools available to fight terrorism without undermining our civil liberties. In the wake of Oklahoma City, I strengthened the terrorism bill I had previously sent to Congress but which had not then been passed. Despite the vow of Congress to act quickly, it took a year before that bill came to my desk to be signed.

The bill had some very good points. It made terrorism a Federal offense, expanded the role of the FBI, imposed the death penalty for terrorism. As strong as it was, however, it did not give our law enforcement officials other tools they needed and that they had asked for, including increased wiretap authority for terrorists to parallel that which we have for people involved in organized crime now, and chemical markers for the most common explosives so that we can more easily track down bombmakers.

After the bombing in Atlanta, Congress said it would reconsider these and other measures. I immediately called the congress-

sional leadership to the White House and urged them to put together a package and vote it into law before they left for the August recess last Friday. I am disappointed, and more importantly, the America people are disappointed that that job was not done. These additional measures would save lives. They would make us all more secure. When the Congress returns from the August recess, we will take them up again, and we must get the job done.

There is more I will ask Congress to do. Next month I will submit to Congress the "International Crime Control Act" that our Justice, State, and Treasury Departments drafted at my request, because more and more, terrorism, international organized crime, and drug trafficking are going hand in hand. This bill expands our fight against money laundering, so criminals and terrorists will have a tougher time financing their activities. It strengthens our extradition powers and border controls to keep more criminals and terrorists out of America. It increases the ability of American law enforcement to prosecute those who commit violent crimes against Americans abroad. Congress should pass it.

And once again, I urge the Senate to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention, so that we can eliminate chemical weapons stockpiles and give our law enforcement new powers to investigate and prosecute people planning attacks with such weapons. We have seen the terrible, destructive impact of sarin gas in the Tokyo subway. Within a month of that attack, Japan's Diet ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention, but we still have not done so. If the Chemical Weapons Convention were in force today, it would be much more difficult for terrorists to acquire chemical weapons. They are not waiting, and we shouldn't either.

Finally, the third front of our struggle against terrorism is the airports and airplanes that bring us all closer together. Air travel remains the safest form of transportation. And our airlines have the best safety record and security record in the business. But that's a small consolation when a single attack can take so many lives.

Last year we began field testing new high-tech explosive detection machines in Atlanta

and San Francisco. We significantly increased security at our airports, and the FAA created a new Government and industry panel to review airline security.

After the TWA crash, I ordered new measures to increase the security of air travel. As any of you who have flown in recent days will have noticed, we're doing more hand searches and machine screening of luggage. We're requiring preflight inspections for every plane flying to or from the United States—every plane, every cabin, every cargo hold, every time. The Vice President is leading a commission on aviation security that is to report back to me within 45 days with an action plan to deploy machines that can detect the most sophisticated explosives and other needed changes.

Now, I know all this has led to some extra inconvenience for air travelers, and it may lead eventually to a modest increase in the cost of air travel. But the increased safety and peace of mind will be worth it.

So, greater international cooperation, stronger American law enforcement, safer air travel, these are the fronts of our concerted strategy against terrorism. Much of this work by law enforcement, intelligence, and military professionals goes unheralded, but we are getting results. For example, we prevented attacks on the United Nations and the Holland Tunnel in New York. We thwarted an attempt to bomb American passenger planes from the skies over the Pacific. We convicted those responsible for the World Trade Center bombing and arrested suspects in the Oklahoma City and Unabomber cases. We've tracked down terrorists around the world and extradited more terrorists in 4 years than in the previous 12.

But I want to make it clear to the American people that while we can defeat terrorists, it will be a long time before we defeat terrorism. America will remain a target because we are uniquely present in the world, because we act to advance peace and democracy, because we have taken a tougher stand against terrorism, and because we are the most open society on Earth. But to change any of that, to pull our troops back from the world's trouble spots, to turn our backs on those taking risks for peace, to weaken our opposition against terrorism, to curtail the

freedom that is our birthright would be to give terrorism a victory it must not and will not have.

In this fight, as in so many other challenges around the world, American leadership is indispensable. In assuming our leadership in the struggle against terrorism we must be neither reluctant nor arrogant, but realistic, determined, and confident. And we must understand that in this battle we must deploy more than police and military resources. Every one of you counts; every American counts.

Our greatest strength is our confidence. And that is the target of the terrorists. Make no mistake about it: The bombs that kill and maim innocent people are not really aimed at them but at the spirit of our whole country and the spirit of freedom. Therefore, the struggle against terrorism involves more than the new security measures I have ordered and the others I am seeking. Ultimately, it requires the confident will of the American people to retain our convictions for freedom and peace and to remain the indispensable force in creating a better world at the dawn of a new century.

Everywhere I travel on behalf of our country I encounter people who look up to us because of what we stand for and what we're willing to stand against. I have said this before, but when Hillary and I visited the Olympic Village, I was so moved by the athletes who came up to me and talked about what America had meant to their country: a young Croatian athlete who thanked me for our efforts there, not long after Secretary Brown's plane crashed and Secretary Kantor had finished the mission; an Irish athlete who thanked me for our efforts to bring peace in Northern Ireland; a Palestinian athlete who said that he came from a very old people, but they never had an Olympic team until they made peace with Israel, and that many people wanted to keep that peace.

This responsibility is great, and I know it weighs heavily on many Americans. But we should embrace this responsibility because at this point in time no one else can do what we can do to advance peace and freedom and democracy and because it is necessary at this point in time for our own peace and freedom and prosperity.

As we remember the centennial Olympics, the weeks of courage and triumph, the wonder of the world's youth bound together by the rules of the game in genuine mutual respect, let us resolve to work for a world that looks more like that in the 21st century, to stand strong against the moments of terror that would destroy our spirit, to stand for the values that have brought us so many blessings, values that have made us at this pivotal moment the indispensable nation.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:26 a.m. in the Lisner Auditorium. In his remarks, he referred to Stephen J. Trachtenberg, president, and Harry Harding, dean, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University; former Sen. George S. McGovern, of South Dakota; and John Dorin, mayor of Montoursville, PA.

Remarks at a Ceremony Launching the Paralympic Torch Relay

August 6, 1996

Thank you so much. First of all, welcome to the White House. Welcome to the lawn. Welcome to summertime.

I want to thank Al Mead and Andy Fleming for being here today; and Randy Snow and all the members of the 1996 U.S. Paralympic Team. We are so delighted to have you here, so excited that this is the beginning of the torch relay. We know that the torch that we launch here today will ignite the world's second largest sporting event and the first Paralympic Games ever to be held here in the United States.

I want to echo what has just been said. It is very fitting that the torch was lit yesterday by the eternal flame at the tomb of Dr. Martin Luther King. His life has come to symbolize the struggle and the promise, the opportunity and the responsibility of our Nation. This is the first time his flame has been shared for any other purpose. And I'd like to thank Coretta Scott King and Dexter King, the entire King family, for sharing it with these games. It is a remarkable statement and an altogether fitting one. *[Applause]* Thank you.

I know that our American team, many of whom are gathered here today, and the other

teams around the world will thrill people all around the world with their courage and their achievements. And we will be reminded everywhere, but especially here in the United States, how much more we can accomplish when all people everywhere are given the chance to participate fully in our national life.

The people in these Olympics got here because they believed in themselves and worked hard to achieve their goals. The organizing committee of the Atlanta Paralympic Games, under the leadership of Andy Fleming and Al Mead and many others here today, have also worked very hard to make these games the best ever. This year's games are the result of an unprecedented partnership between the committee, the corporate community, and the Federal Government. And APOC has done an outstanding job of educating corporate America about the value of being associated with these games.

For the first time there will be network television coverage. The dedication to these games for the members of my own administration I can tell you has been very heartfelt, and I want to thank them. Education Secretary Riley himself is now down on the Mall waiting to receive the torch. The Vice President will have the great honor of declaring the games open on August the 15th, and as all of you know, there will now be more than 3,500 athletes there from 120 different nations.

Our American team includes some of the finest athletes and some of the finest individuals in the world. Aimee Mullins, a student at Georgetown, my alma mater, who is here with us today, is the only disabled member of an NCAA Division I track team. And I thank her for being here and for her contribution. She's a world record holder in the 100 and 200 meter dashes and in the long jump, and she'll be competing in all three of those events in Atlanta. Trischa Zorn is a swimmer from Indiana who's been competing since the age of 7 and has won more than 30 Gold Medals in her career. Fourteen-year-old LeAnn Shannon from Orange Park, Florida, is the youngest member of our team and the youngest member ever. At this year's trials, she finished first in the 100, 200, 400, and 800 meter races. The joys of youth.

She also volunteers in a rehabilitation hospital in her community, helping other people.

In addition to being a world stage for some of the greatest athletes, the Paralympic Games will also give us an opportunity to reflect on where the disability movement is heading worldwide, in the areas of equal opportunity, economic opportunity, and access to sports for all people with disabilities. I'm determined to press on with meeting the challenge to our Nation that I put forward in 1992, a national disability policy based on inclusion, independence, and empowerment. The Paralympic Games are a powerful demonstration of what can happen when inclusion, independence, and empowerment become realities in individuals' lives with great abilities and great hearts.

In Atlanta, experts from around the world will be discussing these issues in the Third Paralympic Congress, chaired by our good friend Justin Dart who's also here with us today and who in his own way has the most Olympian spirit I believe I've ever come across. We thank you for being here, sir.

My domestic policy adviser, Carol Rasco, will cochair a session on how to make the athletic experience available to children with disabilities around the world. And we know this will be a very successful Congress.

In a few minutes, the Paralympic torch, representing the triumph of the human spirit, will be formally presented to me on behalf of the 1996 Paralympic team by Paralympic swimmer Diane Straub. I want to thank her not only for bringing the flame to the White House but also for her selflessness, her determination, and her achievement. The flame of her life burns just as brightly as the flame of these games and is lighting the way to others. Even with her demanding medical school studies and her training schedule, she still finds time to help disadvantaged children. She is truly a Paralympic champion and an American hero.

I'd also like to thank the Cochair of the President's Commission on Physical Fitness, Tom McMillen, for being with me here today and for supporting the concept that physical fitness is every bit as important, if not more important, for Americans with disabilities than for other Americans. We are committed to that. And I thank you, Tom, for being here.

Now, this torch is beginning its journey home to Atlanta carried by one of America's best. Randy Snow has been a member of six United States National Wheelchair Basketball teams. An accident when he was 16 left him a paraplegic. His enthusiasm and excellence in sports, however, did not diminish. He's gone on to have an outstanding career in both basketball and tennis. He devotes a lot of his time to extolling the value of recreation and wellness to people with disabilities. And in 1994, the National Council of Disability presented him with its Outstanding Citizenship Award. In 1989, he won the coveted Jack Gerhardt Award as the Wheelchair Athlete of the Year.

He will hand the torch off to Georgia Congressman John Lewis who was, as many of you know, an associate of Dr. King, who will take it off the White House grounds. One thousand people will participate in the relay that will cover 1,000 miles. When the torch reaches Atlanta on August 15th, it will take its place in the Olympic Stadium, the most accessible arena of its kind in the world. I am proud that we have worked hard to make this a reality.

Dr. King once said, "Everybody can be great because everybody can serve." That is a great lesson of these games. In their dedication to excellence, equality, and community, APOC, the athletes, their families, their coaches are the best examples of what is right with our country. May this torch serve as an inspiration to all Americans to give their best in every endeavor, to make the most of their God-given abilities, and to recognize that we are all stronger and more vibrant when we develop, recognize, and support the talents of all of our people. May that be the lasting legacy of the 1996 Paralympics.

It is now my honor to invite Diane Straub, a member of the 1996 Paralympic team, to bring the torch to the stage.

Diane.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:11 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Al Mead, member, board of directors, and G. Andrew Fleming, president and chief executive officer, Atlanta Paralympic Organizing Committee; and Justin Dart, Chair, President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities.

Remarks on Signing the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996*August 6, 1996*

Thank you. I'd like to begin by thanking Diana Neidle for her years of work in this cause and all the other environmental and community workers who are here who have also labored in this vineyard. I want to thank Secretary Browner and the others at the EPA who have done such good work on this legislation, and the Members of Congress who are here and those who are not here who were active. Senator Warner, Senator Kempthorne, thank you especially for your efforts in this. I know how long and hard you worked on it. Representative Boehlert and Borski and Oberstar and Waxman and Norton who did such good work, and the others who were mentioned by Carol Browner who are not here.

I thank Governor Voinovich and the mayors and the commissioner and the State senator who have come here today because their constituents will be affected by it, and the way they govern will be, I believe, eased and improved as a result of this legislation.

This legislation represents a real triumph because it demonstrates what we can achieve here in Washington and in our country when we turn away from partisanship and embrace shared values. Last week I was proud to sign the Food Quality Protection Act, which passed with full bipartisan support. I said then and I'd like to repeat today that I think a fundamental promise we must make to our people is that the food they eat and the water they drink are safe. American families, after all, have enough to worry about without having to worry about whether that glass of water Diana talked about that you might offer to a child or a grandchild will be contaminated.

Today we come together in that same spirit of bipartisanship to celebrate another cornerstone in the foundation of security for American families. The Safe Drinking Water Act is terribly important. I know that many of us take safe drinking water for granted. Unfortunately, it's not always so. I came into office determined to change this. In 1993, I asked Congress to strengthen our drinking water laws to meet the challenges we face

today and the ones we will face in the future. I am proud to say that the proposals I made then were at the heart of the law I will sign today.

Americans do have a right to know what's in their drinking water and where it comes from before they turn on their taps. Under the new law, water authorities will be required to tell them. Americans have a right to trust that every precaution is being taken to protect their families from dangerous and sometimes even deadly contaminants like cryptosporidium. The new law sets high standards that consider the special needs of children, the elderly, people living with AIDS and weak immune systems.

Americans have the right to believe that Government is doing everything it can to keep water systems safe. The new law requires it to act. It protects the sources of our drinking water from pollution. Even more important, it authorizes nearly \$10 billion in loan funds to help communities all across our Nation upgrade their drinking water systems.

I hope that Congress, and I believe that Congress, will now take the steps necessary to release all of the available monies to communities as quickly as possible. As some of you know, just by chance, the law passed a few hours too late to access money that had been set aside. But the law passed with such strong and passionate support, I believe it will be forthcoming.

Today we helped to ensure that every family in America will have safe, clean drinking water to drink every time they turn on a faucet or stop at a public water fountain. From now on our water will be safer, and our country will be healthier for it.

Again, let me say there are environmental and consumer and public health groups represented here who work so hard to make this happen, and it wouldn't have happened without you. Again, let me say that Congress performed so very well in this endeavor, coming together, working together, securing our future together.

This has been a good couple of weeks for positive achievement: these environmental laws, a higher minimum wage, incentives for small businesses, health reform, meaningful

welfare reform. This is what Government should do and how we should work together.

Now, let me just say one other thing in passing. You know, the First Lady's had the chance to represent our country around the world on a couple of occasions, talking to women and mothers and grandmothers around the world. The absence of safe drinking water is the single biggest health threat to poor children all over the world, to tens of millions of them. The number of children that die in other countries from the absence of safe drinking water is absolutely staggering. I have always hoped that our country would be able to do more to help to alleviate this problem, which can be done without great expense compared to the conditions which exist in other nations. But when I became President and I realized how much more we had to do here, I thought at the time that before we can attempt to do all we might do for poor children everywhere else in the world, we ought to take care of all the children in this country who are entitled to safe drinking water so we can set the proper example.

That's what we're doing today. I am very grateful to every one of you who had a role in this.

And now I'd like to ask the children to come up and stand around me as I sign this law, because, after all, they're what the law's all about. I'd like to invite the Members of Congress who are here. And Governor, I'd like to ask you to come up as well to represent the State and local officials that are here and what they have at stake. So if you all come up, we'll sign the law.

[At this point, the President signed the legislation.]

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:20 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to safe drinking water advocate Diana Neidle and Gov. George V. Voinovich of Ohio. S. 1316, approved August 6, was assigned Public Law No. 104-182.

Statement on Signing the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996

August 6, 1996

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1316, the "Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996." This Act will provide the American people with much greater protection for the drinking water on which we all rely every day of our lives.

Safe drinking water is the American people's first line of defense for public health. In 1993, my Administration called for reinvention of safe drinking water law to improve public health protection. This Act achieves this objective by following the basic principles we articulated. It balances responsible regulatory improvements with common-sense measures to help States and water systems prevent drinking water contamination problems in the first place. It also authorizes for the first time the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds that I first proposed in 1993. These Funds will provide the resources for drinking water infrastructure that will help hundreds of communities to protect their people from harmful contaminants.

Regrettably, the Congress failed to pass this legislation prior to the August 1 deadline, so the \$725 million of previously appropriated funds are no longer available for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds and have been transferred to the Clean Water Program. I urge the Congress to act promptly to correct this problem and to restore these monies to the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds as soon as possible.

The Act is in several respects a model for responsible reinvention of regulations. It replaces an inflexible approach with the authority to act on contaminants of greatest risk and to analyze costs and benefits, while retaining public health as the paramount value. It embraces principles of pollution prevention and a cost-effective, community-based approach for ensuring drinking water safety. It affirms the right of all Americans to know about the quality of their drinking water and the potential threats to its safety.

The consensus that has been achieved on this Act shows how strong protection of the health and environment of the American people can be achieved through partnerships with State and local governments and affected communities. The result achieved today by the Administration and Congress will give the American people confidence for years to come in the safety of their drinking water.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 6, 1996.

NOTE: S. 1316, approved August 6, was assigned Public Law No. 104-182.

**Statement on Signing the
Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration, and
Related Agencies Appropriations
Act, 1997**

August 6, 1996

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3603, the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997."

For the upcoming fiscal year, the Act provides \$13.1 billion in discretionary budget authority for important nutrition, food safety, and rural development programs, and \$40.3 billion for mandatory programs such as the Food Stamp program, the Child Nutrition program and the Commodity Credit Corporation. In addition, the Act provides urgently needed supplemental funds for the current fiscal year in two vital areas.

First, the Act provides \$12 million in FY 1996 funds to support and enhance the ability of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to investigate the appalling incidents of church burning that have disturbed and angered Americans across the Nation. As I said when I spoke to this issue in Greeleyville, South Carolina in June, we will do everything we can to bring those responsible for these acts to justice. And so I appreciate the timely action by the Congress in providing this funding in the first available appropriations bill.

Second, the Act includes \$32 million in FY 1996 emergency funds for farmers who have been hurt by natural disasters, particularly those in the Southwest suffering from the prolonged drought and those in the Southeast affected by Hurricane Bertha. These funds will support \$100 million in low-interest direct loans. I hereby designate all of these funds as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

For fiscal year 1997, I am particularly pleased that the Act includes my request for increased funds for the Food Safety Inspection Service. On July 6, I announced a sweeping reform of the meat and poultry inspection system, which has not been upgraded in 90 years. This investment will revolutionize the way we ensure the safety of American meat and poultry.

The Act also provides significant increases in rural development programs, to improve the quality of life in rural America and to help diversify the rural economy. In addition, the Act includes much of my proposal to create a Rural Development Performance Partnership, which will provide greater flexibility to tailor Federal assistance to local needs, reflecting my Administration's belief that there is no "one-size-fits-all" solution to the challenges facing rural areas.

I am concerned, however, that the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program is funded at \$150 million below my request. I am disappointed that the Congress failed to provide my requested increase for the WIC program in order to reach a full participation level of 7.5 million women, infants, and children.

Finally, I note that \$69.1 million of valuable agricultural research funding has been earmarked for unrequested buildings and facilities. In the Statement of Managers accompanying the Bill, the conferees have, however, expressed their intent to make FY 1997 the last year in which they earmark research funds for such purposes. It is my hope and expectation that the Congress will hold to that intent.

On balance, this is a good bill that will provide funding for important nutrition, food safety, and rural development needs as well

as providing a strong boost for two immediate priorities.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 6, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3603, approved August 6, was assigned Public Law No. 104-180.

**Statement on Signing the
Developmental Disabilities
Assistance and Bill of Rights Act
Amendments of 1996**

August 6, 1996

Today, I am pleased to sign into law S. 1757, the "Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1996." This legislation would extend for 3 years the authorization of appropriations under the Act.

During the 25 years since its enactment, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act has made a crucial difference in the lives and futures of Americans with developmental disabilities and their families. Through this Act, Federal funds support the development and operation of developmental disabilities councils, protection and advocacy activities, university-affiliated programs, and projects of national significance. This crucial investment has provided the structure to assist people with developmental disabilities to reach their maximum potential.

When first conceived by President Kennedy, Dr. Elizabeth Boggs, and others, the primary emphasis of developmental disabilities programs was on access to institutional facilities. Today, the focus is on helping people to obtain the support they need to make choices about how to live, particularly in family or community settings. The developmental disabilities programs emphasize fundamental system change, including legal services and advocacy and capacity building at the State and local levels. They also continue to spur progress and create opportunities in the everyday lives of children and adults with developmental and other significant disabilities in ways unimaginable a generation ago.

Beginning in the mid-seventies, individuals with disabilities and their families began to work for, and gain passage of, key Federal and State legislation regarding educational access, barrier-free design, and employment. The resulting legislation has helped to open doors that had been slammed shut for decades. It was once common for people with disabilities to be denied access to community schools, swimming pools, banks, restaurants, and even to the voting booth. Today, these actions are not only illegal, but would be considered beyond the pale by the American people.

Americans with disabilities are helping to redefine what it means to have a disability in America and what it means to be a full, contributing citizen. I am pleased to support continuation of the developmental disabilities programs that have meant so much to Americans with disabilities.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 6, 1996.

NOTE: S. 1757, approved August 6, was assigned Public Law No. 104-183.

**Executive Order 13013—Amending
Executive Order No. 10163, The
Armed Forces Reserve Medal**

August 6, 1996

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including my authority as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 10163 as amended, is further amended by striking out sections 3 and 4 and inserting in lieu thereof the following new sections 3 and 4:

"3. The Armed Forces Reserve Medal may be awarded to members or former members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States who meet one or more of the following three criteria.

a. The member has completed a total of 10 years of honorable service in one or more of such reserve components, including annual active duty and inactive duty training as required by appropriate

regulations, provided that (1) such 10 years of service was performed within a period of 12 consecutive years, (2) such service shall not include service in a regular component of the armed forces, including the Coast Guard, but (A) service in a reserve component that is concurrent, in whole or in part, with service in a regular component of the armed forces shall be included in computing the required 10 years of reserve service, and (B) any period of time during which reserve service is interrupted by service in a regular component of the armed forces shall be excluded in computing, and shall not be considered a break in, the said period of 12 consecutive years, and (3) such service shall not include service for which the Naval Reserve Medal or the Marine Corps Reserve Medal has been or may be awarded.

b. On or after August 1, 1990, the member was called to active duty and served under sections 12301(a), 12302, 12304, 12406 (formerly sections 672(a), 673, 673b, 3500, and 8500) and Chapter 15 of title 10, United States Code, or, in the case of the United States Coast Guard Reserve, section 712 of title 14, United States Code.

c. On or after August 1, 1990, the member volunteered and served on active duty in support of specific U.S. military operations or contingencies designated by the Secretary of Defense.

4. Not more than one Armed Forces Reserve Medal may be awarded to any one person. The member shall receive the medal with the distinctive design of the reserve component with which the person served at the time of award or in which such person last served. The medal is awarded with the appropriate appurtenance that denotes the manner in which the award was earned, either through completion of 10 years of service, mobilization, or volunteering for, and serving on, active duty in support of operations or contingencies designated by the Secretary of Defense. For each succeeding mobilization, volunteering for, and serving on, active duty in support of operations or contingencies, or 10-year period of service

as above described, and a suitable appurtenance may be awarded, to be worn with the medal in accordance with appropriate regulations.”

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 6, 1996.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., August 8, 1996]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on August 9.

Remarks Honoring the 1996 United States Olympic Team

August 7, 1996

Thank you very much. I want to welcome Dr. Walker here and Dick Schultz and Maynard Jackson and others who come from the Olympic committee and from Atlanta. I want to say also a special word of thanks to the Vice President, who worked so hard on America's contribution to the Olympic games, who can't be here today, and to my good friend Mack McLarty for all the work they did to help the Olympics succeed.

And I want to welcome the coaches and the family members who are here. But most of all, I want to welcome you here. I want you to know, you've caused us two problems: one is, none of us got any sleep for the last 2 weeks, and I don't think we hurt the public interest—[laughter]—but we enjoyed watching you, sometimes until one o'clock in the morning. The second thing you have done is good in a way; we've all intensified our training schedule around here—[laughter]—since we watched the Olympics. But I asked my staff if there were any special requests that I should make of you, and an enormous number of people asked if we could get the women's soccer team to teach us that belly slide. [Laughter]

As all of you know, this was a very great thing for the United States. When Hillary and I had a chance to come and meet with you at the beginning before the Olympics began, I said that we would cheer when you won and cry when you lost, but that your efforts and what you symbolized for America

would be the most important thing. And I really very much believe that today.

This was a remarkable Olympic experience. And I think in many ways it was fitting that the centennial Olympics were held in the United States because we do represent so many nations. When I leave you, I'm going out to California. There were 197 teams in the Olympics. In one county in California, there are people from the same places as over 150 of those teams. That's what's special about our country. And you gave that to the world when we saw you, when we saw you compete, when we saw you win. And we're very grateful to you.

I'm also very grateful to the people in Atlanta who did a magnificent job in organizing the games and for the community spirit there after the bombing. I thought it was magnificent.

There may have been some discussion about this, but I believe that since more people saw these games than any games in history, both in person and on television, because they were so well organized, because there were so many countries represented, because you were so magnificent, and because of the way people reacted to the tragedy, as far as I'm concerned, these Atlanta games were the best. They were the greatest games in the history of the Olympics.

I also would like to say a special word of appreciation to all the athletes who competed and all those who won. But let me say, when I looked at our team, I couldn't help as the father of a daughter of whom I'm very proud, I couldn't help but note that over 20 years ago in a complete bipartisan commitment here in Washington the United States Congress passed something called title IX which made it possible for a lot of the women athletes to be here today.

There were 77,000 spectators at the women's soccer finals. There were a lot of men basketball players watching the women's basketball finals thanking God they weren't on the court that day. *[Laughter]* We should be on the forefront always of bringing more people into the world of sport, more people into competition, more people having a chance to live out their dreams whatever they are.

And yesterday, we saw off the torch for the Paralympics which will be starting in At-

lanta soon. And I know everyone of you support that. One of our runners in the Paralympics actually is on an NCAA Division I track team at my alma mater Georgetown University. So, we ought to be for more and more and more people having a chance to participate.

And let me finally say that I had very high hopes for all of you and for our country. They were exceeded not only by the medals you won but by the way you won them. And you gave something very special to the American people. I'm glad you can be here today. And we'd like to just have a chance to give a small portion back to you through your tour of your house that you gave to all of us for those wonderful 17 days.

Thank you all. God bless you, and good luck.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:28 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to LeRoy T. Walker, president, and Richard D. Schultz, executive director, United States Olympic Committee; and Maynard Jackson, former mayor of Atlanta, GA.

Remarks on Departure for San Jose, California, and an Exchange With Reporters

August 7, 1996

NASA Discovery of Possible Life on Mars

The President. Good afternoon. I'm glad to be joined by my science and technology adviser, Dr. Jack Gibbons, to make a few comments about today's announcement by NASA.

This is the product of years of exploration and months of intensive study by some of the world's most distinguished scientists. Like all discoveries, this one will and should continue to be reviewed, examined, and scrutinized. It must be confirmed by other scientists. But clearly, the fact that something of this magnitude is being explored is another vindication of America's space program and our continuing support for it, even in these tough financial times. I am determined that the American space program will put its full intellectual power and technological prowess behind the search for further evidence of life on Mars.

First, I have asked Administrator Goldin to ensure that this finding is subject to a methodical process of further peer review and validation. Second, I have asked the Vice President to convene at the White House before the end of the year a bipartisan space summit on the future of America's space program. A significant purpose of this summit will be to discuss how America should pursue answers to the scientific questions raised by this finding. Third, we are committed to the aggressive plan we have put in place for robotic exploration of Mars. America's next unmanned mission to Mars is scheduled to lift off from the Kennedy Space Center in November. It will be followed by a second mission in December. I should tell you that the first mission is scheduled to land on Mars on July the 4th, 1997, Independence Day.

It is well worth contemplating how we reached this moment of discovery. More than 4 billion years ago, this piece of rock was formed as a part of the original crust of Mars. After billions of years it broke from the surface and began a 16-million-year journey through space that would end here on Earth. It arrived in a meteor shower 13,000 years ago. And in 1984 an American scientist on an annual U.S. Government mission to search for meteors on Antarctica picked it up and took it to be studied. Appropriately, it was the first rock to be picked up that year, rock number 84001.

Today, rock 84001 speaks to us across all those billions of years and millions of miles. It speaks of the possibility of life. If this discovery is confirmed, it will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our universe that science has ever uncovered. Its implications are as far-reaching and awe-inspiring as can be imagined. Even as it promises answers to some of our oldest questions, it poses still others even more fundamental.

We will continue to listen closely to what it has to say as we continue the search for answers and for knowledge that is as old as humanity itself but essential to our people's future.

Thank you.

Republican Abortion Debate

Q. Mr. President, Republicans right now are going through a wrenching abortion de-

bate. At the same time, pro-choice advocates have created the pro-choice public education project, they're calling it. They say abortion rights are under a very grave danger. Would you agree with that assessment? And what do you think of the Republicans' troubles?

The President. Well, they are only under grave danger if the election results in a change in the occupant of the White House. But what I think about the—I'd like to just compare it with what we did in the Democratic Party. Some of our pro-life members asked for a conscience clause in the Democratic platform. And I thought it was a good idea. I recommended it. The platform committee unanimously embraced it. And the Democratic Party was proud to do it. We believe this is a matter which should be left to private conscience. And we believe that people who have pro-life convictions should be respected.

What you see here in the Republican Party is more of the extremism that we saw manifested in their budget proposals, their environmental proposals, their opposition to sensible crime proposals in the previous 2 years. And it's lamentable. It's not good for the country. And I would just say that in this convention season, we would welcome thoughtful, moderate, concerned Republicans, independents, to join our party this year and to help keep moving America forward and bringing America together.

Q. You do not feel the rights are under grave danger at this point?

The President. Well, right now we have a Supreme Court decision and an administration committed to the pro-choice position and committing to doing whatever we can to keep the Government out of that decision but to take initiatives that would reduce the number of abortions in America, including the recent tax credit for adoption that we strongly supported that will be part of minimum wage bill when it comes to me for signature.

So I'm determined to protect those rights and to keep the Government out of it. But it is fair to say that in this election that is one of the matters at issue. Yes, it is fair to say that.

Thank you.

President's Olympic Tie

Q. Where did you get that tie?

The President. It's an Olympic tie. I got it down at the Olympics. Do you want to trade? [*Laughter*] Thanks.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:15 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

Remarks to the Community in San Jose, California

August 7, 1996

Thank you. Thank you so much. First of all, I think we ought to give David Auberle another hand. I thought he did very well, didn't you? When he said he gave his 8th grade graduation speech just a few feet from here and the only difference was I wasn't there then, I thought to myself, if I'd known you were this good a speaker I might have been there. [*Laughter*]

I want to thank Glen Toney for being here today and for his work for Joint Venture Silicon Valley. It's good to see you again, Glen. Larry Kubo, thank you for what you said, for your work as a parent and as a business leader. Carol Summers, thank you for your remarks today and for devoting your life to teaching.

I'm delighted to be here with so many of my friends from Silicon Valley and throughout California. I thank Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis and Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren for being here, and Mayor Susan Hammer, thank you. I know there are a lot of people here from the school and the school district: your principal, Mike Carr; your superintendent, Linda Murray; Dr. Bill Erlendson and Victor Freitas, the board president of San Jose Unified School District. Thank you for being here.

We also have Joe Simidian, who is from Palo Alto, a Palo Alto City Council member. Somebody must be here from Palo Alto besides Joe.

I want to thank the students who spoke in the pre-program, Sarah Sandower and Marianna Dominquez. Thank you for doing that.

I want to tell you, it's wonderful to look out here and see a crowd like this during summer vacation in a school. [*Laughter*] And

I thank the students especially for being here; it shows you really are concerned about your future. And it's a great honor for me as President to be here and to hear a little about this program.

I'd like to explain to you why I'm here at this moment to talk about this issue. The first, and maybe most important, I hope that my presence here will give your efforts greater publicity throughout the United States, because I believe this is the sort of thing that school districts all over America should be doing to give our children the kind of opportunities they need.

Secondly, I want to explain why that is so, and I'd like to take just a few minutes—I know it's warm, and I nearly went blind in the sun, I can only imagine how much trouble you're having—but I want to take a few minutes to explain why that is so, what the national significance of efforts like this are at the grassroots level, at local schools throughout our country in terms of what I am trying to achieve for America as your President.

First of all, let me say that I started off today in a very happy way. Hillary and our daughter, Chelsea, and I were able to welcome the United States Olympic team to the White House to congratulate them on their remarkable accomplishments. I think in many ways, at least from my point of view—and I realize I'm prejudiced, being an American and being the President—but these were the greatest games that I have ever seen because of the quality of the competition, because of the numbers of nations involved—people from 197 different countries were there—because so many people were able to watch around the world, and because there were more people who actually came and personally participated in Atlanta. There were 77,000 people watching the women's soccer final, for example, a remarkable thing in the United States.

And I was thinking to myself, why is it that we love the Olympics so much, apart from the thrill of seeing these magnificent athletic achievements. And I think the reason is that they work the way we think the world ought to work. That is, you have all these people who come from all over the world, from different races and cultures and religions and

ethnic and tribal backgrounds, with all kind of differences. Very often their countries are fighting or at least not getting along very well. And they come together in mutual respect, which often grows into genuine admiration and affection because they play by the rules of the game and they honor each other and because nobody gets ahead by breaking somebody else's bones or bad-mouthing someone else in a public forum. You only get ahead by reaching down inside and doing well, individually and as a team. And I think that's the way we think the world ought to work.

I was also terribly impressed by the way the athletes, the coaches, and the fans, all the spectators responded to the terrible bombing incident. They all showed up the next day and said, "We hate that this happened, but we're going on with our lives. We're not going to be terrorized by fear. We're not going to be cowered into walking away from the Olympics because of a terrible act of terror and violence."

And so we feel good about that. But we want the world to work more that way. Keep in mind, one of the reasons it works that way is that all those people really were prepared to do what they did. And they didn't all win medals, but they all won because they sacrificed, they worked, they performed to the best of their ability, they had a fair chance and they were better for the effort. And that's what we want for all Americans.

Really, it applies more to America than any other nation in the world. Your largest county in California, for example, Los Angeles County, has people living in it from over 150 of the 197 groups that were represented at the Olympics. That's a stunning thing. No other country can say that. When Hillary and Chelsea and I went down to meet with the Olympic team before the games started, I looked out in that team and I said, "You know, this is amazing. If you all broke up and just started walking in the Olympic Village, no one would know where you were from. You could be from Scandinavia or Africa, from Latin America or the Middle East, from India or Pakistan or the Asian-Pacific region. No one would have a clue where you're from. You're bound together not be-

cause of your race but because you're Americans."

And that is a very important thing to understand at this moment. We're moving into this explosive information age that Silicon Valley has done so much to create, in a global village after the cold war, where no nation on Earth is as well prepared as the United States to reap the rewards of the 21st century, if we will simply determine that we are going to create opportunity for every person who is responsible enough to work for it, and that we're going to grow together, instead of allow ourselves to be torn apart by the differences in this country. If we decide we're going forward together and everybody is going to have a chance, we're going to do fine.

That's what I want to talk about today in terms of education. I devoted a great deal of time the last 3½ years to trying to get the economy going again. We cut the deficit, increased investment. We've got record numbers of new small businesses and exports, a lot of it coming out of this area. We have a record number of new businesses owned by women and minorities. We have almost 4½ million new homeowners in America, and we've got 10 million Americans who refinanced their homes at lower mortgage rates because we've been able to drive the interest rates down. And the economy has produced 10¼ million new jobs. And that is good news for the United States.

But I think we also have to recognize that not everybody has yet benefited from that economic improvement, and those who have not, principally have not either because they live in areas where there's been no new investment or because they themselves do not have the education and skills they need to prosper in a world in which education is rewarded and the lack of it is punished.

It is one thing to say, well, everybody has got an opportunity who wants it, but an opportunity only exists if you're capable of taking advantage of it. The first time I ever heard this expressed was when I was a student myself about David's age, when I read the great French writer, Anatole France, say that the poor and rich are equally free to sleep under the bridge at night and beg for bread. And it's obvious what he meant. He

might have said it another way: The poor and rich are equally free to walk into the nearest Mercedes dealership and buy the most expensive car. That is, there is a difference in saying you have a right to do something and the reality being there. Education closes the gap in America between opportunity and the reality of being able to access it.

In his book, "The Road Ahead," Bill Gates says that the microchip is the greatest advancement in human communications in 500 years, since Gutenberg printed the first Bible in Europe—in 500 years. The young people in this audience today within 10 years will be doing jobs that have not been invented yet. Some of you will be doing jobs that have not been imagined yet.

This morning I had the privilege of making a few comments about the United States space program, which I have strongly supported. And you may have seen the news reports that two of our NASA scientists discovered way back in 1984 a piece of rock which they believe was blasted off Mars by meteors millions of years ago and took 16 million years to find its way to Earth. The rock is about so big. But they have analyzed it and concluded that it is about 4 billion years old. At the time, Earth and Mars were very similar in their composition and makeup, and they believe they have found evidence of a petrified microorganism, or an elemental form of life.

Now, no one knows for sure whether this is so, or not, and this finding will have to be subject to rigorous review by their peers in the scientific community. But on the 15th of this month you can read all about it in "Science" magazine if you want to get a copy of it. But just think of that. Think what that could mean. We're sending two more robotic missions to Mars later this year as part of a renewed emphasis on our exploration of Mars that we have been working on for about 3 years. One leaves in November; the other leaves in December.

I should tell you, for those of you who are interested in life in outer space, that the one that leaves in November will land on July the 4th, 1997, Independence Day. [*Laughter*] Now, we can laugh about this, but what it says is that there is a fair chance that if we can nurture scientific interest and capac-

ity in our young people, that they will be able to do work and discover things that we have not imagined yet. And it means also that we have a heavy responsibility to make sure that no child is denied that opportunity because they happen to be poor or they happen to be born in an area that hasn't had a lot of economic opportunity or they happen to be a member of a racial minority or they happen to be otherwise left behind, because we don't have a person to waste. This is a highly competitive world and it runs on people power, and we need all the people we can get. The motto of this school district, "All students can learn, all students can succeed," is very important. That's what you're here to celebrate today. Believe it or not, not everyone believes that. A lot of people don't believe that. But everybody should believe that. And this joint venture can prove that motto true.

If I have learned anything in the years I served as a Governor and the years I've been your President, it is that people are capable of extraordinary things if there are high expectations of them and if they have high expectations of themselves. Education begins with high expectations, high standards, high levels of accountability, empowering teachers and principals and parents and students, and then with community involvement. The riches, the vast resources, the intellectual resources of this community are a treasure that you have decided to share with this school district, and it is a very great thing.

We are trying to do more of that everywhere. Just last September the Vice President and I announced that we wanted to challenge California's schools to lead America in hooking our classrooms up to the Internet. And then we came back a few months later, in March, on NetDay, to work with 20,000 California citizens to hook up over 20 percent of the classrooms in the State in one day. This idea is now spreading like wildfire across the country.

We tried to support it, and like all technological change, it outran our capacity to support. They didn't need our support after a while in a lot of places. People saw that it was going on. They wanted to do it, and they copied it. And it's a wonderful thing. Our national goal is to have every classroom and every library in America hooked up to the

information superhighway by the year 2000—every single one. And we can do it.

But we also know that if we want to do it right, it's not simply a matter of hooking up to the Internet. You have to have enough hardware. You have to have high-quality software, and you must have very well-trained teachers and people in the community who can understand how to maximize the use of this in the educational process.

We have put aside \$2 billion to help States achieve these goals. The telecommunications law that I signed will create hundreds of thousands of jobs in telecommunications, a lot of them right here in California. It will also guarantee equal access to people to the technology of the future, whether they live in Silicon Valley or the remotest rural areas of the Appalachians, the Ozarks, or the High Plains. And that is also very, very important.

I signed an Executive order saying that we were going to do a lot more to get computers no longer needed by the Federal Government out into America's classrooms, and that project is now being supervised by a man who came from Silicon Valley to join the administration, David Barram, the head of the General Services Administration. He's doing a terrific job, and I want all of you to know that.

This summer we've got a group of—a kind of a joint venture, like what you do here—of national parent and teacher and school board and teacher organizations who are mobilizing 100,000 teachers to teach 500,000 more teachers how to use technology for educational purposes. We do not have enough teachers who can even keep up with their students in high technology now in many places to do the job that needs to be done. So training the teachers is a very, very important part of this.

But in the end it all comes down to the magic of what goes on in the classroom and what goes on in the school and what goes on in the community and what goes on in the home. And that's why I wanted to come here. I want every person in the country to understand that we can do all these national initiatives, but unless we have true joint ventures like the one you have here in Silicon Valley, we will never maximize opportunities for our children. And you have assets here

a lot of communities don't have, but every community has assets that can be brought to bear for positive educational impact and high technology learning in the classrooms of every community in America. And I hope everybody will follow the lead you have established here.

I want to thank all of your partners, the San Jose State University College of Engineering. I want to thank all those who work in the other school districts in the area. I want to thank IBM for investing \$2 million in the San Jose School District for the development of a new curriculum to help teachers get the training they need.

And I want to tell you, too, that, believe it or not—and I think you do—the truth of your motto, "All children can learn" applies everywhere. I'll tell you about a school district that I visited that's not in Silicon Valley, but in the city of Union City, New Jersey. It's a community, not a very large community, in New Jersey, one of our most heavily urbanized States. New Jersey has the second highest per capita income in America, but Union City is one of the poorest school districts in New Jersey, with a very, very high immigrant population. Just a couple of years ago they had a dropout rate that was way above the State average and test scores that were way below the State average in a State that has a lot of school districts like the ones in Silicon Valley.

But the teachers and the students and the parents decided that they were not going to let their school district go down. It was so bad that under New Jersey law the State was about to declare it bankrupt and take it over and start running it. But the first-generation immigrant parents knew they could do better. With the help of their joint venture partner, Bell Atlantic, who went in and put computers in the classrooms and even in the homes of a lot of first-generation immigrant parents, who had difficulty speaking English but could learn to use computers, they developed the capacity of parents who were working all day to E-mail their kids' teachers and their principals and get student reports, get the homework assignments, and get involved in their classrooms.

People that hardly had a high school education were being trained to use computers

at least to the point where they could be good parents. And the children were able to access a lot of the science programs and other things that were then available only to the wealthiest school districts. And the good news is, 2½ years later, that immigrant American school district has a dropout rate below and test scores above the average in the second wealthiest State in the United States. We can do this, folks. If more people will follow your lead, we can do this. We can do this.

So I will say again: We all love the Olympics, and we know the American way of life ought to be more like that every day. Every one of those kids had a chance to prepare to do what they were doing. Every one of them worked hard, they were immensely responsible, but they were also given a chance to live out their dreams.

The 21st century will give more people more chances to live out their dreams than any time in human history. If we use technology wisely it will be able to lift more people out of poverty more quickly than we have ever been able to do. But technology is not inherently good or bad. You can get on the Internet and learn how to make the bomb that blew up the Federal building in Oklahoma City. There are terrible things you can learn with technology, and technology can be abused. A major portion of my time as your President is spent trying to contain the spread of technologically advanced weapons of mass destruction, biological, chemical, and conventional weapons.

I know we have to do these things, but technology can be the greatest force for good we have ever known if it is properly applied. You are doing that here, with people power, with basic human concern, and with a fundamental belief in the capacity of your children to learn and grow and have good lives, and to do it together, across the lines that divide us all too often.

That is what we want for America. We must do our part in Washington, but you—you—you make all the difference here. And I want everyone in America to see what you're doing and to say, if they can do it we can, too.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:40 p.m. at the John Muir Middle School. In his remarks, he referred to Glen Toney, vice president for corporate affairs, Applied Materials; Larry Kubo, director of business development, Xyratex; Carol Summers, a teacher at John Muir Middle School; and William J. Erlendson, director of external programs and community development, San Jose Unified School District.

Remarks to the United Steel Workers Convention

August 8, 1996

Thank you. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for the introduction. Thank you for the warm welcome. I want to thank Senator Chris Dodd for his leadership for our party and for what he said. I want to thank you, George, for your invaluable contribution to the Democratic platform drafting committee. I know the committee has worked very hard; I know you played a big part in their work. And I am very, very proud of the products we've produced, without the kind of bloodletting division and difficulties that we see our Republican counterparts going through.

I also want to congratulate Jack Sheehan upon his retirement. Jack, you joined the United Steel Workers in 1951, and in the years that followed, you've been a tireless force for the labor movement. Thank you. Your commitment is an inspiration to all of us. And I wish you well as you move on to new challenges.

I wish I could be there to thank each and every one of you for your endorsement. Your support is crucial. You've been there with me and with Al Gore all the way, and you've made a real difference. I'm glad this satellite broadcast lets me see and hear all of you out there in Pittsburgh, a city that has come to symbolize the heart and soul of the steel industry and the workers who built America from the ground up, the city that never gives up and represents the best in our country.

On Monday you came together to celebrate plans to unify the United Steel Workers, the United Auto Workers, and the International Association of Machinists. I salute you as you go forward together, as strong as the steel you transform. Soon you will be the

largest union in North America. With leaders like George Becker, Steve Yokich, and George Kourpias, I've got no doubt that you'll become the largest in the world. [Applause] Thank you.

I heard a rumor that at the rate you're going, you may have to change your name to "Heavy Metal" soon. Then you can get a lot more young people in.

I'm glad to have the chance to talk to you about issues that you and I care about so much and about the choice our country is facing in November. You know what it is. You know what the choice is. But as Senator Dodd said, in the next 88 days we need your help to make sure that every American knows what the choice is.

Almost 4 years ago, we began a journey together, a journey to restore America's working families, to give them a sense of economic security and well-being that was then being lost. We worked hard to make Government reflect the values working people have long struggled for, values your movement continues to represent: opportunity, responsibility, community, fair treatment on the job, the chance to make a decent living and to support your families.

We've made real progress in the past 4 years. There are 900,000 new construction jobs, 4.4 million Americans have become new homeowners, 10 million more have refinanced their home mortgages at lower rates. Exports are at record levels. We have record numbers of new small businesses. The combined rate of unemployment, inflation, and mortgages is now the lowest in three decades. We've cut the deficit by 60 percent; now it's the smallest it's been since 1981. And our economy has created over 10 million new jobs. And real wages, which had been falling for a decade, have finally begun to rise again. Our economy is the soundest it has been in a generation.

Now, we all know that's a record to build on, not to sit on. We have to make sure America works for working families. That's why I vetoed the Republican budget that undermined Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment, and the sanctities of working people's pensions. That's why I fought for the Family and Medical Leave Act, against the Republican congressional op-

position. That's why I worked to expand the earned-income tax credit, to give a tax cut to more than 15 million of our hardest pressed working families.

That's why I fought so hard, with your help, to make Congress do the right thing and increase the minimum wage. And in a matter of days, it will be the law of the land, thanks to you and so many like you throughout this country.

That's why you and I together fought and won the battle to make sure that you don't lose your health insurance if you lose your job or if someone in your family gets sick, why we fought and won the battle to make sure you can keep saving for your retirement when you change jobs, why I'll continue to oppose efforts to let corporations raid workers' pension funds. We must not do that under the guise of balancing the budget.

Soon after I took office, I got rid of my predecessor's antiworker, antiunion Executive orders. Our administration is profamily, proworker, and pronunion. I strongly support collective bargaining for all employees. It's not a privilege, it's the right of all workers.

This Congress tried to make replacement workers the law of the land; I wouldn't let them. I supported legislation banning permanent replacement workers. I signed an Executive order to prevent companies who do business with the Federal Government from hiring permanent replacement workers. When a court blocked my order, I directed the Justice Department to take all appropriate steps to overturn the decision.

This Congress tried to make unsafe workplaces the law of the land, and I wouldn't let them do that either. I vetoed their budget that would have strangled OSHA's ability to enforce the safety laws that protect our workers. We can have a strong economy without sacrificing worker safety. And I'll keep fighting for both.

This Congress tried to make company unions the law of the land, and I wouldn't let them do that either. I vetoed the TEAM Act. When they tried to gut the National Labor Relations Board by slashing its budget, I said no. When they tried to undermine the prevailing wage laws, I said no. And I will continue to use that veto pen to stop Republicans in Congress from attacking our work-

ing families and the unions that represent them until we can turn this around and get everybody on the side of building a better America together.

You and your families and the millions of working families just like you are the heart and soul of the American dream. We have to keep working together not just to preserve what's been won but to continue to fight for better jobs, higher wages, more growth, and more justice.

America's unequalled progress throughout the 20th century would not have been possible without the unions that helped to make it happen. Your history is America's history; your struggle is America's struggle. Now, as we prepare to enter the 21st century, we have to continue to work together to prepare our workers for the challenges of the future, together.

This is a moment of remarkable promise for our Nation. I believe that our children will have more opportunities to live out their dreams than any generation before them if we continue to hold to our most basic values: opportunity for all, responsibility from all, a stronger American community reaching out across all our diversities. Then we can make sure that the next century will truly be an American century. You're more than doing your part. And I'm determined to be your partner.

Remember now, 88 days. Go out and tell your fellow Americans, number one, compared to 4 years ago, the economy is in better shape, the crime rate is down. We've taken strong action to move people from welfare to work, to help the poorest working families, to lift up our children. Number two, we have a big contest here about the future. You remember what they tried to do, how they shut the Government down twice, what they tried to do to Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment. Unless we win the Presidential race and change the composition of the Congress, they'll keep trying it over and over and over again. I'm determined to stop them, and you are, too, and it's not necessary to balance the budget.

And finally, as we look toward the future, we have to do more to create more good jobs, to give our people the educational opportunities they need, to make sure we go forward

together into the next century. This is not the time to change the course we're on, it's the time to build on the course we're on and bring in more folks to fight the good fight.

That's what you're trying to do. I'm grateful to you. We're going to be partners, and we're going to be successful with your efforts.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke by satellite at 9:40 a.m. from the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, CA, to the convention meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. In his remarks, he referred to George F. Becker, international president, and Jack Sheehan, former legislative director, United Steel Workers; Stephen P. Yokich, president, United Auto Workers; George J. Kourpias, president, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Remarks to the Community in Salinas, California

August 8, 1996

Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, Leon Panetta did not make me come here, I wanted to be here, and I am glad to be here today. I love looking at this crowd.

Mayor Styles, thank you for your welcome and thank you for that wonderful plaque with the beautiful drawing by a young child on it. Chief Nelson, thank you for what you said and for the leadership you give. Anna Caballero thank you so much for your wonderful introduction.

I was sitting listening to her speak—I thought, you know, she speaks better than most of us do. She ought to run for higher office someday. I think she will. She was very good.

Simon Salinas, thank you for being here today. Congressman Farr, thank you for doing such a fine job. You know, he was talking about all these programs we supported. What you need to know is that Sam Farr voted for every one of them and every one of them was hard to pass. There were people who were actually trying to keep us from putting 100,000 police on the street and doing those other things, and Sam Farr was there with me every step of the way. And I thank him for that.

Sam Cabral and the International Union of Police Associations, I thank you for your

endorsement. I thank you especially this year because it means something. For years and years as a Governor and as attorney general, working with communities like Salinas in my home State when I was struggling to deal with the problems of crime, I always heard the politicians in Washington talk about crime, and I never heard anybody come out for it. I mean, all people in public life are against crime. You never hear somebody stand up and give a speech for crime. But nobody ever did anything about it in Washington.

And I was determined that we would change the direction of our Nation in dealing with the crime problem at the grassroots level with local communities. And I thank you for validating that today.

Ladies and gentlemen, there's someone else I want to introduce in the audience—I just saw him sitting out there—a man who has done as much as any individual citizen I can think of in the last few years to try to make our children safer, a man who lives not very far from you and who went through the unimaginable agony of having his own child abducted and killed. Her murderer was just convicted and sentenced. But in all these years he has borne his grief with dignity and worked to help us pass laws and adopt policies that would make other children safer in their homes. And I'd like you to welcome Mr. Marc Klaas. Marc, stand up. Thank you. God bless you, sir.

I'd also like to say just one more word about Mr. Panetta. We were supposed to come here in a helicopter today and, believe it or not, it was too foggy for us in San Jose to take off, so we had to drive. So we drove over from San Jose, and Leon and Bruce Lindsey and I were sitting in the car together and the closer we got to Salinas the happier Leon got. [Laughter] He was like a kid with a new toy when we drove into town. And he was talking about where he used to have an office here. We got out of the car and the first thing Sam Farr said is, "I got a better office than you did. I got another room." [Laughter]

And he began to talk about you and about his life as a Congressman and about his friendships here and about what kind of community this was. And as we walked down the

streets and people waved to us, this sort of flood of memories came out. And I don't know that there's a harder job in public life than being Chief of Staff to the President. He's responsible for whatever mistakes he makes and all of mine, too. [Laughter] He has to defend me on the bad days, as well as brag about the good days. You know, you've got to deal with Congress, run the White House, try to manage what's going on in the Cabinet, deal with the press and just wait for another tire to go flat on you. [Laughter] It is an unimaginably difficult job. He has been magnificent, and you should be very proud of him.

But I think the ultimate reason for his success is he never forgets what the purpose of the job is. Washington is a long way from Salinas, and I know a lot of times the debates up there seem very far and almost alien, almost unreal, and excessively political. And Leon Panetta has never forgotten his roots. Every day when he goes to work he imagines what we're doing in terms of how it will impact people like you and how you will receive it and whether it will help us to raise our children. And other things being equal, he'd just as soon be back home, and we need more folks like that serving the public in our Nation's Capital.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Alvin Harrison and his teammates on their great 1600-meter relay. They were magnificent. [Applause] Thank you.

You know, Hillary and Chelsea and I had the privilege of going to the Olympics. Chelsea spent a week there, and Hillary went three times. I went twice. We got to speak to the team before the games began and then welcome all those who could come to the White House there yesterday. And I was trying to think to myself all during this whole thing and especially after the terrible bombing and then wondering how people would respond, and all the athletes showed up the next day, and all the spectators did, too. And people said, "We're going on." And I was thinking to myself, what is it that we really love about the Olympics?

I mean, Americans love all sports, and we're thrilled by sports achievements. But I think that we love the Olympics in part because we think it works the way we want the

world to work. I mean, if you think about it, there they are, people from 197 different nations—there's a small, isolated little island like Nauru that sends four or five people and a large, vast country like Russia or Australia, a country with only 18 million people, had the third biggest delegation—all these countries participating. People that give expression to their national pride and more than ever before.

But they all come together and play by the same rules in an atmosphere of mutual respect, and they have to win by doing something good, not by doing something bad to their opponents. Nobody wins by breaking their opponent's bones or by standing up in a public forum and saying how terrible their opponents are. They win by doing well. And they win by working together and accepting these rules. And I think that we think the world would be better if it worked that way.

The thing that made me so proud of the America team, as I looked at them I thought to myself, you know, if the American team were to disperse and walk out in the Olympic Village, but for their uniforms nobody would have any idea where they were from. They could be from Africa or Latin America. They could be from Mexico or India or Pakistan. They could be from any number of countries in the Middle East. They could be from China or Japan. They could be from Scandinavia. They could be from anywhere, because we are bound together not by our race but by our common commitment to this country and to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence.

I was gratified that Sam said one of your community groups here had as its motto the title of my wife's book, from that old African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child." I want to talk to you about that today because that's really why I came here, because I think Salinas is a wonderful model of what has to be done by people in their communities if we're going to get this country in the shape it needs to be in to move into the 21st century.

Yes, there are things we must do in Washington. Yes, there are things that others must do. But where it matters is where people's lives are changed, in their homes, in their

schools, in their communities, in their places of worship, with civic groups, with the local media, with other people who are involved in giving people the chance to make the most of their own lives.

I know, because some other people were telling me before I came out here of the very moving story of your Gold Medal winner and his twin brother. That's an American story. And what we need to do is to make sure that there are a thousand stories like that for every child we lose, instead of the other way around. We don't have a child to spare, not a child to—[*applause*].

I have worked very hard in the last 3½ years to achieve my vision of what our country would be like when we move into the 21st century, and it's very simple. I want America to be a place where everybody, regardless of their race, their income, their background, their gender, has a chance to live out their dreams if they're responsible enough to work for it.

I want this country to stand as a brilliant rebuke to all the places in the world that are consumed by racial and religious and ethnic and tribal hatred, where people are killing each other around the world because of their differences. I want us to embrace our differences with respect and affection and reach across the lines that divide us and say we are stronger because of our differences, because we share the same values and we share the same visions of the future.

And I want our country—and this requires me to do some things that everybody doesn't like from time to time, but I want our country to continue to be the strongest force for peace and freedom and prosperity in the world, because, increasingly, threats to our security that seem a long way away can come right home. Whether it's terrorism or drugs or shipping weapons or organized crime, we have to stand as a force for peace and freedom and prosperity throughout the world, so that we can guarantee that future to our children here at home.

So we worked very hard to do that, first to create opportunity by bringing our economy back. I'm grateful that the deficit has been cut in half, that trade is at an all-time high, that we're selling California agricultural products in markets they were never sold be-

fore, that we have over 10 million new jobs, that the California economy is coming back. We've got a lot more to do, but we're moving in the right direction, and I'm grateful for that.

We've tried to expand educational opportunity. One of my goals is to make sure every classroom and every library in America is connected to the information superhighway by the year 2000. And California is leading the way.

We're moving to improve performance, to set higher standards, to support our schools, to help our schools support this by being able to stay open later hours, for example, and give children something to say yes to as well as something to say no to. We're working to open up the doors of college education to all Americans so that no young person should ever decline to go to school after high school just because of the cost of it.

I tell you, there's a lot of talk—there's a lot of talk, you'll hear a lot of talk between now and November about tax cuts and how much we should have and whether we can afford them, and they all sound good. It's like going to the candy store, you know, "I'll have some of that and some of that and some of that and some of that." But if you eat it all at once, you might get sick.

So I say to you, it may not be popular, but I will not advocate any cut in taxes in this election that cannot be paid for in our attempts to balance the budget, invest in education, protect Medicare and Medicaid and the environment. But we have to do that. But we can afford some targeted tax cuts.

I'm about to sign one when we raise the minimum wage that will give people a \$500 tax credit if they'll adopt children, because we want to encourage more children to be adopted into stable families, to be given a good start in life. That's an important thing.

I want to see tax relief for families when they're rearing their children. And the most important thing we could do, and I think the most significant tax cut we could give America's families is a deduction for the cost of college tuition, and I want to make 2 years of education after high school as universal and available as public education through the 12th grade is today by giving people a tax credit for the cost of a community college

for 2 years after high school. Everybody should have that, everyone in America. It should be universal.

But all this opportunity will not mean much to children who cannot play and learn and grow in safety. All this activity and opportunity will not mean much if children spend their whole childhood looking over their shoulder when they're walking to and from school to see if somebody is going to shoot them. All this activity and opportunity will not mean much to children who are lost in a fog of drug addiction or captured in a web of crime from which they cannot escape.

And so I say to you, I came here today to honor your efforts in fighting crime and rescuing our children. And I just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for what you have done. And I want to make a couple of points here. Have we got a doctor here? Is there a doctor in the house? We need a doctor up here. All this hot air is difficult. *[Laughter]* Okay, we're doing a good job. We have one doctor here and one in the crowd coming up. Come on up, sir. That's fine. We've got one already on the site there.

Now, let me ask you to think about something that to me is very important. If I had told you—you heard all these people say all these good things we've done to fight crime. But the truth is that 4 years in a row the crime rate has come down in America, but until this year, it had been going up among juveniles. So we were winning the battle against crime and losing it with our kids. It seems inconceivable. Cocaine use dropped by a third in America in 3 years, but casual drug use has been going up among people under 18 since 1991.

Now, we all know there are a lot of reasons for that. But the fundamental reason, I think, is that too many of these kids are growing up in chaotic circumstances where they're being left to raise themselves. And Salinas said, we are not going to do that anymore; we're going to rescue every single one of our children.

We can create all the jobs in the world and all the opportunity in the world, but if we go into the 21st century with too many children killing children, too many children having children, too many children raising

children, and too many children raising themselves on the street, this country will not be what it ought to be. And the only way we can turn that around is if communities say, "We're going to take all the resources we have, and we're going to go after every single child. They're all our children."

So I thank the chief and the mayor for pointing out that we have put funds into this community to hire police officers; we've put funds in this community to help you with your special projects. But if you hadn't used it properly it would not amount to a hill of beans. Nothing we do in Washington to try to rescue the children of America will work unless it is given life in the commitment of people in every community in America. You are doing that in Salinas. That's what I want every community in America to do.

I do have some good news to tell you today. For the first time in 7 years, violent crime arrests of juveniles went down last year—for the first time in 7 years. Arrests for murder by juveniles went down for the second year in a row by over 15 percent. We are moving in the right direction. We have to do more of what we are doing.

All over this country people like you are coming alive to the fact that unless we do some things together we're not going to rescue our children. And I have tried to go around this country, to places where things are working, to highlight them, to urge every other American community to do the same, and to say what we in Washington can and will do to help. We can break the backs of gangs and youth violence, but we cannot do it unless the efforts we make in Washington find expression in the efforts you make on the streets of Salinas. Parents have to work with police; neighbors have to look out for each other; the schools, the community groups, everybody has to do it.

Everyone has a role to play. Everyone has a responsibility to fulfill. But we know if we do it, we can win. You don't have to give up on our kids anymore. You don't have to give up on crime. You don't have to accept unacceptable rates of violence. You don't have to say that we're going to lose a large number of our children every year because they happen to be poor or they happen to be isolated or they happen to have been

picked up by a gang. You can say no to all that. And you are proving it in Salinas, and I want you to keep doing it until you eradicate the problem entirely.

Don't forget that not so long ago this community was literally invaded by an army of 20 gangs with 1,500 members. And don't forget that that led to drugs and drive-by murders and that a lot of kids wound up in those gangs just because they didn't have any other thing to belong to. You think about it; we all want to belong to a gang. We just want to be in good gangs. Alvin's relay team is a gang; it's a good gang. Right? Every church, every synagogue, that's a good gang. If you like your school, it's a good gang. People have a need; we are not destined to live isolated lives.

And a lot of these kids who wound up in gangs are living in a vacuum alone, raising themselves, and they are drawn to the first magnet that makes them feel like they're more important. We all have that need, every single one of us. We need to know that we are a part of things that are bigger and better than ourselves, that we can find expression and meaning and force and direction in life by joining with other people. And when you have things like Peace Builders and when you tell kids that they matter and you tell them they can belong and that they can amount to something and they can live out their dreams and no matter where they start out they might wind up with a gold medal and at least they can win a gold medal in the race of life if they do the right things, then you can change this.

So you have had these breathtaking reductions in violent crime by juveniles associated with gangs. The numbers are staggering. And what I want to ask everyone in America is, if your community hasn't done what they have done in Salinas, what's your excuse. Get off the dime, go to work, and we'll help you. Every child counts in every community in America. We need more of this.

I also want to brag on the Alisal Union school district, where an antitrucancy initiative is keeping children in school. Every school district in this country that has cracked down on truancy has reduced juvenile crime, reduced the dropout rate, increased learning, and given more kids a better chance. Uni-

forms for elementary and middle school students keep them focused on what's inside, not what's outside. That also helps. Curfews keep the kids off the street and in a safe and secure place, and that's good.

And finally, let me just say one other thing. The thing I like about what you have done here is that you have not only cracked down on what's going wrong, you've tried to make things go right. You know, it's easy for anybody to stand up at a microphone and tell kids what they ought not to do. That's easy to do—and it's important to do. It's really important what people should not do. But every human being needs something to say yes to, and too many of our children have not had enough things to say yes to. You are also giving them something to say yes to.

And I encourage you, as you teach people right from wrong, never to forget you not only need to suppress the wrong, you need to lift up the right and give people something to live for and to shoot for and to strive for.

I believe the most important thing we can do in Washington today, at a time when we have reduced the size of the bureaucracy, we are moving to balance the budget, is to say that we still have to have a Government that is strong enough to help people when they're flat on their back—as you are if you have a flood or a base closing and you need to change the whole direction of your economy or recover from a disaster—and also to help people make the most of their own lives, to build strong families, strong communities, strong workplaces, and a strong nation.

You are a building block of that. I hope everyone in America will see somewhere tonight on a news report this great, vast sea of faces in this wonderful farming area, from all walks of life and all different backgrounds, who said simply, "We are not giving up on our children. We are lifting up our children."

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:24 p.m. at the Monterey County Courthouse. In his remarks, he referred to Alan Styles, mayor, Daniel T. Nelson, chief of police, and Anna Caballero, city council member, Salinas, CA; and Sam Cabral, president, International Union of Police Associations.

Statement on Proposed Veterans' Medicare Reimbursement Model Project Legislation

August 8, 1996

Today, I have directed Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown to send to Congress legislation for an innovative pilot that will expand health care options for our Nation's older veterans.

The "Veterans' Medicare Reimbursement Model Project Act of 1996," fulfills a recommendation made by the Vice President's National Performance Review and moves forward an idea proposed during the early days of this administration. The proposal has the potential of multiple benefits: expanding the choice of health care for older veterans; bringing new resources, utilization, and operational experience to the VA health care system; and producing savings for the Medicare Trust Fund by providing health care to Medicare-eligible veterans at a lower cost in the VA system.

This bill would establish a model demonstration project under which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) would be reimbursed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for health care provided to certain Medicare-eligible veterans.

It would open the VA system to Medicare-eligible veterans at a limited number of sites, allowing VA to receive reimbursement from Medicare, and testing whether this is a way of improving health care access and quality for Medicare-eligible veterans while protecting the integrity of the Medicare program. The proposal incorporates a rigorous evaluation of this demonstration program.

This legislation is particularly important given the increasing number of veterans age 65 and older—by the year 2000, the number of Medicare-eligible veterans will exceed 9.3 million, or 38 percent of the total veteran population. This model project will allow us to learn more about how we can meet the need of veterans.

The Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services have also been working on developing specifications for a model project to allow Medicare-eligible military retirees to use military treatment facilities

with Medicare reimbursement and plan to have a proposal ready in the near future.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Organizations Which Threaten the Middle East Peace Process

August 8, 1996

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

I hereby report to the Congress on the developments concerning the national emergency with respect to organizations that threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995. This report is submitted pursuant to section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

1. On January 23, 1995, I signed Executive Order 12947, "Prohibiting Transactions with Terrorists Who Threaten To Disrupt the Middle East Peace Process" (the "order") (60 *Fed. Reg.* 5079, January 25, 1995). The order blocks all property subject to U.S. jurisdiction in which there is any interest of 12 terrorist organizations that threaten the Middle East peace process as identified in an Annex to the order. The order also blocks the property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of persons designated by the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, who are found (1) to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, acts of violence that have the purpose or effect of disrupting the Middle East peace process, or (2) to assist in, sponsor or provide financial, material, or technological support for, or services in support of, such acts of violence. In addition, the order blocks all property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction in which there is any interest of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, to be owned or controlled by, or to act for or on behalf of, any other person designated pursuant to the order (collectively "Specially Designated Terrorists" or "SDTs").

The order further prohibits any transaction or dealing by a United States person or within the United States in property or interests in property of SDTs, including the making or receiving of any contribution of funds, goods, or services to or for the benefit of such persons. This prohibition includes donations that are intended to relieve human suffering.

Designations of persons blocked pursuant to the order are effective upon the date of determination by the Secretary of State or his delegate, or the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) acting under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Treasury. Public notice of blocking is effective upon the date of filing with the *Federal Register* or upon prior actual notice.

2. On January 25, 1995, the Department of the Treasury issued a notice listing persons blocked pursuant to Executive Order 12947 who have been designated by the President as terrorist organizations threatening the Middle East peace process or who have been found to be owned or controlled by, or to be acting for or on behalf of, these terrorist organizations (60 *Fed. Reg.* 5084, January 25, 1995). The notice identified 31 entities that act for or on behalf of the 12 Middle East terrorist organizations listed in the Annex to Executive Order 12947, as well as 18 individuals who are leaders or representatives of these groups. In addition the notice provides 9 name variations or pseudonyms used by the 18 individuals identified. The list identifies blocked persons who have been found to have committed, or to pose a risk of committing, acts of violence that have the purpose of disrupting the Middle East peace process or to have assisted in, sponsored, or provided financial, material or technological support for, or service in support of, such acts of violence, or are owned or controlled by, or to act for or on behalf of other blocked persons. The Department of the Treasury issued three additional notices adding the names of three individuals, as well as their pseudonyms, to the List of SDTs (60 *Fed. Reg.* 41152-53, August 11, 1995; 60 *Fed. Reg.* 44932-33, August 29, 1995; and 60 *Fed. Reg.* 58435-36, November 27, 1995). The OFAC, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, is continuing to

expand the list of Specially Designated Terrorists, including both organizations and individuals, as additional information is developed.

3. On February 2, 1996, OFAC issued the Terrorism Sanctions Regulations (the "TSRs") (61 *Fed. Reg.* 3805-13, February 2, 1996). The TSRs implement the President's declaration of a national emergency and imposition of sanctions against certain persons whose acts of violence have the purpose or effect of disrupting the Middle East peace process.

4. During the reporting period, OFAC issued two licenses pursuant to the TSRs. One license authorized the disbursement of funds from a blocked account for the legal defense of an identified terrorist. The second authorized the release of certain funds from the blocked account of the same SDT for maintenance in the United States of his dependents.

5. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6-month period from January 23 through July 22, 1996, that are directly attributable to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of the national emergency with respect to organizations that disrupt the Middle East peace process are estimated at approximately \$1 million.

6. Executive Order 12947 provides this Administration with a new tool for combating fundraising in this country on behalf of organizations that use terror to undermine the Middle East peace process. The order makes it harder for such groups to finance these criminal activities by cutting off their access to sources of support in the United States and to U.S. financial facilities. It is also intended to reach charitable contributions to designated organizations and individuals to preclude diversion of such donations to terrorist activities.

In addition, comprehensive counterterrorism legislation was enacted on April 24, 1996, that would strengthen our ability to prevent terrorist acts, identify those who carry them out, and bring them to justice. The combination of Executive Order 12947 and the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996; Public Law 104-132, demonstrate the United States determination

to confront and combat those who would seek to destroy the Middle East peace process, and our commitment to the global fight against terrorism.

I shall continue to exercise the powers at my disposal to apply economic sanctions against extremists seeking to destroy the hopes of peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Israelis as long as these measures are appropriate, and will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Remarks to the Community in the Port of Long Beach, California

August 8, 1996

The President. Thank you, thank you. Thank you so much. Thank you, Kevin. Boy, he did a good job, didn't he? Just like he's been doing it all his life. If he could get a leave, I'd just take him with me. We'd make an act of it. We'd go on the road. [*Laughter*] Thank you for your work and for your example.

Thank you, mayor. It's great to be here with you again. It's great to be back in Long Beach. Thank you, Leland Wong, for what you said and for your work. Thank you, Lt. Gov. Gray Davis. Thank you, Kathleen Connell, our State comptroller. Thank you, Long Beach Harbor Commission President George Murchison. And I'm glad to be here with Rick Zbur, who wants to go to Congress. Thank you very much. We're glad to see you, sir.

I'd like to thank the members of the Long Beach Harbor Commission and the Long Beach council and the Los Angeles council who are here. I've been given some names, I'm going to say them. If I miss somebody it's all my fault. [*Laughter*] But I think Nate Holden and Richard Alarcon are here from Los Angeles. And Carmen Perez who is on the Long Beach Harbor Commission; Long Beach Councilman Del Roosevelt, and Long Beach council member Jennie Orapreza are

here. Thank you very much. Long Beach City Attorney James Hahn. And someone told me—Los Angeles—I'm sorry. [*Laughter*] I don't want to put my glasses on, I'm too vain. I can't read—[*laughter*]. I've also been told that a friend of mine, a former Congresswoman from New York, Shirley Chisholm, is here in the audience. Shirley, are you here somewhere? Somebody told me—I know she's here somewhere. Thank you for being here.

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm glad to be back here today, glad to be back to celebrate the successes of this port, the success of California in coming back, and to say this is only the beginning. The best is yet to come.

We are proud of the leadership of Mayor Riordan and Mayor O'Neill and others in the resurgence of these ports. They are the largest in our Nation, as has already been said. But they are your gateway to the future.

I am especially proud of the work that Long Beach has done in dealing with the consequences of the base closing. I thank the Navy for their service here and their contributions here for so very many years. I know what a blow the base closing decision was. I know how you can take that kind of blow; I've been knocked flat on my back a time or two in my life. And I was, frankly, inspired by the determination, the energy, the vigor, and the vision of the plan that the people of Long Beach put together to bring this community back. It's going to work, and we're going to help you, and you're going to make it.

At the time I took office I was very concerned that our country was not going to be prepared for the challenges of the 21st century. I was concerned that we had the slowest job growth since the Depression. I was concerned that communities in California and throughout the country that had been hurt by base closings and other economic adversity were not being helped to develop strategies to recover and rebound in the move into the future. I was concerned that our deficit was at an all-time high and growing. I was concerned that so many great American industries that I knew could compete and win in the global economy seemed to be falling behind.

I've got a simple vision. You know, when we had the previous speakers I was sitting here thinking about every one of them and what they were saying and what it meant. And then in the end, Kevin sort of put it all on the line when he said he was doing his work so that his son and future generations would do better.

I have a very simple vision for our country—

Audience member. What about a tax cut?

The President. —as we enter the 21st century. One is—

Audience member. Tax cut?

The President. You know, we believe in the first amendment here. I'll be glad to answer your questions but they came here to hear me, so—[*applause*]. Thank you. But I will tell you, I'll give you an answer if you'll stop screaming and listen. Number one, after I got elected, it turned out the deficit was a lot bigger than we were told, and I thought getting the deficit down, getting interest rates down, and getting this economy back on its feet was the most important thing.

Number two—

Audience member. [*Inaudible*].

The President. Now, wait a minute, stop screaming. I'm not through yet. [*Laughter*] I want you all to listen to this because you'll have a chance to tell this again, and I want you to do it before it's over. [*Laughter*] Number two, in this country today the average family of four with an income of under \$30,000 will have a tax bill \$1,000 lower than it was when I took office. That's not the whole middle class, but that's a big chunk of it, and they're better off because of our plan.

Number three, 90 percent—nine-zero—90 percent of the people who own small businesses in this country have lower taxes because of the '93 economic plan.

Number four, if my version of the balanced budget had passed instead of their version, which had excessive cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, education, and the environment, over half—up to 60 to 70 percent of the American people would have had a tax reduction, and one we could afford, that would have still allowed us to balance the budget without hurting the future of Ameri-

ca. So that's my answer to your question. Now I'd like to go on to the speech.

I'm kind of glad you asked, and I hope you'll find some more of your troops to seed some more of our rallies. [Laughter] And then we'll get more truth out to the American people. It would be a better election as a result. Thank you very much.

Now, where are we? [Laughter] Let me go back to where I started. That's politics. Let's talk about the future. What's it going to look like when our children are our age? What's it going to look like when our grandchildren are our age? That's the real question. I believe that we ought to go into the next century with three simple things on our mind, three things. And you ought to ask yourself whether you agree. You may not agree with all three of them.

One is, every person in this country, who is willing to work for it, without regard to their race, their gender, their station in life, ought to have a chance, not a guarantee but a chance to live out their dreams.

Two, we ought to be committed to the proposition that America will not be destroyed by the racial, religious, ethnic, and tribal tensions that are tearing the rest of the world up, that we're going to be stronger as a result of it. We're going to be stronger as a result of it.

Number three, we ought to be committed, even though it costs money and it is sometimes difficult, to the proposition that America will remain the world's strongest force for peace and freedom and prosperity because a lot of the threats to our security—

Audience member. [Inaudible].

The President. —terrorism, drugs, organized crime, are things that cross national lines.

Don't pay any attention to those folks. [Laughter] We got a limit of one question for a rally here—interruption. [Laughter] The rest of you ought to be—if you want to talk to me, come around here later and stop screaming.

Now, that's what we ought to be committed to. And I believe that if we are committed to it, we'll be better off. Now, let me ask you to think about this: When we started—

Audience member. You're lying to the American people.

The President. No, I'm not lying to the American people. Do we have 10 million more jobs than we did under the previous President, or not? Yes. Do we have 4.5 million more homeowners and 10 million people that refinanced their home mortgages at lower rates? Do we have 1.3 million fewer people on welfare and a million and a half fewer people on food stamps? Yes. Has the crime rate gone down 4 years in a row?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Did we stop the attempts to gut funding for education and the environment and to destroy the Medicare and Medicaid program? Yes.

Now, those are true things. So we're in better shape than we were 4 years ago. But what I want to say to you is, we've got a long way to go. We have to build on what we have done. And trade is one way we're going to do it.

One of the biggest arguments we had in this country—and, frankly, it included people in both parties and people that belonged to neither party—was whether or not America could benefit from a world in which borders were more open and trade was more free. There were some who said that because we were a wealthy country and so many countries that were interested in trade were poorer than we were and worked for wages we couldn't live on, that we could never win if we had open borders and worked for freer trade. There were others who said that all we had to do was open our borders, and we didn't have to worry about anything else.

We took a different view. Our view was, if we didn't try to trade more, we would get all the burdens of the future and none of the benefits, because you can't keep low-cost goods out of America that American consumers want to buy. But what we needed was both fair and free trade, rules that were fair, rules that gave our people, our workers a fair chance to prove they were the most productive in the world. And then we needed to get off our duffs and go out in the world and try to sell our products. That's what Ron Brown did, and that's what his lasting legacy will be: proving that Americans could compete and win with anybody in the world.

Now, we proved that we were very competitive. The mayor mentioned that I was

here at the McDonnell-Douglas plant not very long ago. We have a partnership now with McDonnell-Douglas and Pratt & Whitney to produce 80 more C-17 airplanes. They're the best transport plane in the world, the best ever produced by anybody. That will create 18,000 more jobs.

We've worked hard on this base closing problem all over California. I was just up in Monterey County where Fort Ord has become the California State University at Monterey Bay. I was in the Presidio the other day, where a military base went from being a closed base to a national preserve and an environmental treasure for the whole United States of America. These things are things that can be done.

The mayor mentioned Sea Launch a minute ago. That's an international project that was just announced by Boeing which will tap into the growing market of launching commercial satellites into space. The home port will be right here, and that's hundreds of more new, good paying jobs for the people of this area.

So what I want to say to all of you is in the end our attitude toward the rest of the world will be determined in part by what the political leaders say and what our policies are and the things we advocate when we're having these debates. It matters that we started meeting for the first time with the leaders of the other Asian-Pacific countries—and I do it every year now—and we're broadening our trade there and committing them, as well as ourselves, to lowering trade barriers. It matters that we've continued and intensified our trade relationship with China. It matters that we set up an export development office down here to help you export more of your products to the rest of the world. That all matters.

But in the end it matters what you want to do. If you believe in it, then you will support what we're trying to do in the Alameda Corridor project. You'll make it a reality because you know it will generate more jobs by reaching out to the world than by walking away from it.

You've been kind enough today to compliment two people who were very instrumental in this policy we pursued, the late Ron Brown and our former Trade Ambas-

sador and newcomer, Secretary Mickey Kantor, who is from southern California. I'd also like to say that the Transportation Secretary, Federico Peña, has worked very hard to develop the financing and the plan for the Alameda Corridor project. Building that corridor will create 10,000 more good paying jobs for the people of this area and will generate an enormous amount of economic activity in the future.

So I want to thank all them. But mostly, I want to thank you for looking outward. I want to thank Kevin for standing up here and saying with confidence that hardworking people in America can compete and win in the global economy. This will work.

Listen to this: Between 1993 and 1995, California's exports increased—not the country's, California's exports—increased by \$25 billion. That's 200,000 more jobs in California just from exports. As many as 1 in 10 of your jobs are already related to international trade. Not only that, this is changing the nature of the jobs.

When I took office, about 20 percent of our new jobs were in high-wage industries. In 1995, more than 55 percent of the new jobs created in the United States paid above average wages, largely because they were in the industries and the activities of the future, and they were tied into global trade and our ability to be more productive and more competitive than anybody else in the things that we do well.

You are going to benefit if you will continue to support this approach. This should be an American issue, not a Republican issue, not a Democratic issue. This should be something that we say as Americans we're committed to more trade both free and fair. And we are going to be aggressive in promoting our economic interests around the world. That will help us, but it will help others as well, because it will help other people to grow their economy and to be even better trading partners with us in the future.

And we need you to take that position, not just the elected officials, you, people on the street, people doing the work, people whose children's lives are at stake. You must do these things. And if you do there is no stopping our country, and California is coming all the way back.

Let me just make one other comment in closing. If all of you are like me—now, it was earlier out here, so you probably didn't have quite the pain that we went through on the east coast—but I lost a lot of sleep during the Olympics. [Laughter] Our family was up past midnight nearly every night, watching the very last event. And I got to thinking about that, about what we all love about the Olympics and about what was special about the American Olympic team. And I'd like to make——

Audience member. [Inaudible].

The President. Well, that's one thing, all right. [Laughter] I'd like to just make an observation about it to you.

Why do you like the Olympics? I think one reason is—besides the fact that Americans are sports nuts and we all like athletics—I think we like the Olympics because they work the way we think the world ought to work. Everybody shows up, from the smallest island country, which has three or four athletes, to the largest delegation. They all accept the rules of the game. They're all treated with respect. Everybody has their chance. Everybody gives their best, and even the ones who don't win medals are better off for having tried. And when it's all over, people feel like they were part of something that was bigger than themselves. And that's really how we think the world ought to work.

You think about it. You can't win a medal if you have somebody go break your opponent's legs the night before the contest. [Laughter] No one looks up to you if you stand up on a podium and bad-mouth your opponent and say how terrible they are, and they're liars, and they're no good and how sorry they are. Nobody thinks better of you when you do that, when you behave in that way. The only way you succeed is by reaching down deep inside for what is best inside you. And when you do that, it doesn't matter what's on the outside.

Now, we think the world ought to work that way. And if you think about the American team—when Hillary and Chelsea and I had the profound honor of welcoming them to the White House yesterday or going to speak to them before the games began or just watching them compete, it occurred to me that if they took their USA jackets off

and just wandered in the Olympic Village with the other athletes, they're the only crowd you wouldn't have any idea where they're from. [Laughter]

You could see them, you could think, well, these athletes are from Africa, and these are from South America, and these are from Mexico, and these are from India, and these are from Pakistan, and these are from the Middle East, and these are from China, and these are from Japan, and these are from Scandinavia, and it turns out they're all from America. Because this country is not about race, it's about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and what we believe in. That's what it's about.

And that's the last thing I want to tell you. I want you to think about this when you go home tonight. There were 197 different nations represented in the Olympics. Over 150 of those people are represented in this county, Los Angeles County.

Now, that's the last thing I want to leave you with. If you want to create opportunity for everybody, if you want this country to lead the world, if you want to keep reaching out to the rest of the world, we have to prove to the rest of the world that you do not have to base a society on racial prejudice, ethnic prejudice, and looking down at other people. Let's lift people up and go forward together.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:35 p.m. at the Navy Mole at Long Beach Harbor. In his remarks, he referred to Kevin Schroeder, member, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union; Mayor Beverly O'Neill of Long Beach; Leland Wong, president, Los Angeles Harbor Commission; and Rick Zbur, Democratic candidate for Congress in California's 38th Congressional District. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the Saxophone Club in Santa Monica, California *August 8, 1996*

Thank you very much. I am delighted to be here. I want to thank all of you for coming. I want to thank the cochairs of this event and Hannah Bond, the director of the Saxophone Club. Thank you all very much. I want

to thank Dave Koz and his band, and B.J. and the Boys. And I want to say to my good friend Whoopi Goldberg—she is a national marvel, isn't she? And here she was tonight actually playing it straight. And that just shows you how serious she is about winning this election. If you're as serious as she is, we're going to be okay in November. I also saw Magic Johnson over there. I thank him for being here tonight. Thank you, Magic.

Ladies and gentlemen, I want to be brief tonight so I can get out and shake hands and say hello to you, but I want to say just a couple of things—just bear with me for a moment in all your exuberance and let's—just be serious with me just for a minute.

I want to tell you a couple of stories. One is that yesterday Hillary and Chelsea and I had the privilege of welcoming the Olympic team to the White House. And we're real proud of them. And the day before, we saw the Paralympic team off to Atlanta to do their thing, and it was an incredible event. And of course, we had a chance to go down and speak to our Olympic team and visit the Olympics right before the games began.

And so I've been thinking a lot during this whole period and that long night after I stayed up all night after the bomb blew up in the park and we didn't quite know what had happened for a while, what is it that makes people love the Olympics so much, besides the fact that we all love sports? And I think that there are two or three things that make us love it even if we don't like sports so much. You know, we had 77,000 who saw the women's soccer final. I mean, people really got into this. Now, what is it that we like about it?

Well, first of all, you've got people from 197 different countries and they're all getting along for a change. They're all getting along for a change. Right before I went to the dining hall, the North Korean and South Korean teams had sat at adjoining tables and had talked. I've been trying to get them to talk for 3½ years with no luck. [Laughter]

Secondly, they work the way we think the world ought to work. I mean, there's a set of rules and people follow them. And as long as you're following rules, the other people all respect you, even if you're different from them. And you can't win any medals if you

sneak into your opponent's room at night and break his legs or if you stand up at a microphone like this and talk about what a terrible person your opponent is, how they're no good and corrupt and dishonest. You've just got to reach down deep inside and do your best, and everybody gets a chance, but nobody gets a guarantee. And most people don't win medals, but everybody is better off when it's all over. And we all feel good.

And in America we especially feel good because there were 197 different nations represented, there are representatives from 150 of those different countries in Los Angeles County tonight, as we speak. So we identify with that, and we like it.

Now I'll tell you a second story. I was up in Salinas today, and we were celebrating this remarkable effort they've made with all their community organizations to reach out to all the children in trouble and break this epidemic of gangs they have there and dramatically lower the murder rate among young people. And I went there to celebrate what they've done and also to point out that we announced today that for the first time in 7 long years the crime rate is going down among people under 18—for the first time in 7 years.

But it turns out that there was a Gold Medal winner from Salinas who was a member of our 4x400 relay team, a very handsome young man who showed up and got a bigger hand than the President did. [Laughter] It was true. And he has a twin brother who came within less than a second of making the Olympic team himself. And it turns out that at one point when these kids were very young they were so poor they were living in a car. But the fellow has an Olympic Gold Medal, an American dream story.

Now, what's all that got to do with this election? This election, in my opinion, is about what this country is going to look like when we start the new century and the new millennium and, for those of you young people who are in the Saxophone Club, what it's going to look like when you're my age and you have children.

And what I want it to look like is a country where everybody, wherever they start out in life, no matter how poor they are, what their race is, what their station in life is, has a

chance to live out their dreams if they're willing to be responsible and work for it. I want this to be a country where we relish our diversity, where we celebrate our differences and say, "We're not bound by any race or region or creed. We're bound by the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence. If you'll sign onto that, you're fine by me, and we like it."

And I want this to be a country that stands up for peace and freedom around the world; and tells people that it's wrong to have a situation you've got in Bosnia, Burundi, the Middle East, or Ireland or anyplace where people are killed or persecuted because they're different from somebody else, from religion or race or ethnicity. And if we do that, the next century is going to be the greatest era of human possibility that has ever existed.

There are children in school today that within 10 years will be doing jobs that have not been invented yet, that have not been imagined yet. And more people will have more chances to live out their dreams than ever before. That's what I'm working for.

I was so elated yesterday that I got to participate in a comment about our space scientists discovering this piece of meteorite from Mars that took 16 million years to get here and has been hanging around in Antarctica for Lord knows how many thousands of years but seems to have evidence of a fossilized micro-organism—incredible thing. But whether it's—whatever pans out of it, what it shows is that there is a magnificent world out there of things we still don't know. And the explosion of knowledge and technology, if we can make sure everybody has a fair chance and if we can learn to live together amidst all our differences and if we can keep moving the world forward in a more peaceful way, it's going to be an incredible time out there.

Now, that is what this election is all about. And I want you to make just three simple arguments to people in the next 88 days. Number one, take President Reagan's test: Are we better off than we were 4 years ago? Well, if the test is the first time the deficit has gone down in all 4 years of a President's term since the 1840's, 10 million more jobs, 4.4 million more homeowners, 10 million people refinance their mortgages, a record

number of new small businesses, a record number of new businesses owned by women and minorities—if that's the test—record exports—we're better off than we were. If the test is 4 years in a row of a declining crime rate, 60,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers that don't have handguns because of the Brady bill, then we're better off. If the test is 12 million Americans who got to take some time off from work when there was a baby born or a sick parent, without losing their job, we're better off. If the test is, no nuclear missiles pointed at the American people for the first time since the dawn of the nuclear age, we're better off. So are we better off? Yes, we are.

Second question: What is the alternative? [*Laughter*] The answer is, you don't have to guess; you know what they will do, too. They've already done it once; I just vetoed it the first time. And I don't believe we can become a greater, stronger nation by saying we're going to balance the budget and using that as an excuse to wreck our ability to protect the environment for future generations or cutting back on education at a time when we need to be spending more for education—we ought to make sure that nobody who needs to go is ever deprived the right to go to college, and everybody ought to get 2 more years of education—or running away from our obligations to provide health care to poor children and pregnant women and families with someone in it with a disability or seniors.

So there's a big difference here in what we think our obligations are. I believe the role of Government is not to be a bureaucratic pain in the neck. We have reduced the size of Government. We have put it on the side of creating jobs and promoting the economy. But I believe this: I think we have an obligation to protect the environment, to hold people together, and to give people the tools they need to make the most of their own lives. That is what we have to be doing, and that's what I'm committed to.

And the last thing I want to say to you is it's a big, bright world out there, but it matters what decisions people make. Don't let anybody tell you this is an election without consequences. This is an election of massive

consequence in every single policy area you can think of.

You know, we've got 1.3 million fewer people on welfare than we had 4 years ago. We've got 1.5 million fewer people on food stamps. I'm all for looking for new and innovative ways to move people from welfare to work. That's why I signed that welfare bill. But it was wrong of the Congress to deny any access to benefits to legal immigrants who work here and pay taxes and through no fault of their own get in trouble.

You know, you think about it Monday when you go to work, how many people come here and they work hard and they pay their taxes and through no fault of their own they get in a car wreck or they develop some serious illness. And this Congress wants to say to people they shouldn't even be entitled to a little help, even if they've been paying their taxes, even if they've been in the military, legal immigrants that join the military.

Don't let this election become an excuse to divide us from anybody who is here lawfully, obeying the law, paying their taxes, doing their part; we ought to go and grow together. We shouldn't be divided on this. Don't do that.

If you want to know what we're going to do in the next 4 years, I'll tell you what we're going to do. We've gotten our house in order in the first 4 years. In the second 4 years, we're going to be dedicated to giving every single American the chance to participate in the economy that is emerging, to participate in the society that is emerging, and to know that we can grow the economy and preserve the environment and to know that we can be fair to our children and our parents and still have enough left for ourselves. We, in short, are going to go forward together. We are not going to be divided. And that is the central decision facing the American people.

There is too much out there for all of us, if we'll just keep our heads on straight, listen to our heart, and say we're going to do it together. That's the spirit that we celebrated in the Olympics, and we need to make American life more that way.

Thank you, and God bless you all. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:04 p.m. at the Armand Hammer Museum of Art. In his remarks, he referred to comedienne Whoopi Goldberg and former NBA basketball player Earvin (Magic) Johnson. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

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.

August 5

The President announced the designation of Marcia E. Miller as Chair, and Lynn Munroe Bragg as Vice Chair, of the International Trade Commission.

The President announced the nomination of Susan G. Esserman to be General Counsel at the Department of Commerce.

The President announced the nomination of Niranjana S. Shah to the Board of Directors for the National Institute of Building Sciences.

August 6

In the morning, the President met with Prime Minister Goran Persson of Sweden in the Oval Office.

The White House announced that the President signed legislation providing \$12 million to help investigate and solve church arson.

August 7

In the morning, the President met with members of the Club Des Chefs Des Chefs in the Diplomatic Reception Room.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to San Jose, CA. In the evening, he attended a Democratic National Committee dinner at a private residence.

The President announced his intention to nominate Chaskel O. Besser to the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.

The White House announced that the President ratified the Agreement for the Im-

plementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

August 8

In the morning, the President traveled to Salinas, CA, and in the afternoon, he traveled to Los Angeles.

In the evening, the President attended a Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee dinner at a private residence. He then traveled to Santa Monica.

The President announced that Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala will appoint Judith A. Billings and Michael T. Isbell to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

August 9

In the early afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled from Los Angeles to Jackson Hole, WY, for vacation.

Transcript of a press briefing by Chief of Staff Leon Panetta

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Assistant Attorney General for International Enforcement Mark Richard and Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director International Economic Affairs (NEC/NSC) Robert Kyle on the President's proposed international crime control legislation

Fact sheet on the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996

Fact sheet on the "International Crime Control Act of 1996"

Fact sheet entitled, "American Security: President Clinton's Comprehensive Strategy To Fight Terrorism"

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released August 3

Announcement of the President's letter to the Speaker of the House on illegal immigration legislation

Released August 5

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Released August 6

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on the President's meeting with Prime Minister Goran Persson of Sweden

Statement of Press Secretary Mike McCurry announcing that the President signed legislation providing \$12 million for investigation of church burnings

Released August 7

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry announcing U.S. ratification of the the international fisheries conservation agreement

Released August 8

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved August 3

H.R. 497 / Public Law 104-169
National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act

H.R. 1627 / Public Law 104-170
Food Quality Protection Act of 1996

H.R. 3161 / Public Law 104-171
To authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (most-favored-nation treatment) to the products of Romania

Approved August 5

H.R. 3107 / Public Law 104-172
Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996

Approved August 6

H.R. 1051 / Public Law 104-173
To provide for the extension of certain hydroelectric projects located in the State of West Virginia

H.R. 1114 / Public Law 104-174
To authorize minors who are under the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and who are under 18 years of age to load materials into balers and compactors that meet appropriate American National Standards Institute design safety standards

S. 531 / Public Law 104-175
To authorize a circuit judge who has taken part in an in banc hearing of a case to continue to participate in that case after taking senior status, and for other purposes

S.J. Res. 20 / Public Law 104-176
Granting the consent of Congress to the compact to provide for joint natural resource

management and enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to natural resources and boating at the Jennings Randolph Lake Project lying in Garrett County, Maryland and Mineral County, West Virginia, entered into between the States of West Virginia and Maryland

H.R. 782 / Public Law 104-177
Federal Employee Representation Improvement Act of 1996

H.R. 3215 / Public Law 104-178
To amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal the provision relating to Federal employees contracting or trading with Indians

H.R. 3235 / Public Law 104-179
Office of Government Ethics Authorization Act of 1996

H.R. 3603 / Public Law 104-180
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997

H.J. Res. 166 / Public Law 104-181
Granting the consent of Congress to the Mutual Aid Agreement between the city of Bristol, Virginia, and the city of Bristol, Tennessee

S. 1316 / Public Law 104-182
Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996

S. 1757 / Public Laws 104-183
Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1996

H.R. 3663 / Public Law 104-184
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Act of 1996