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dential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Department of Housing and Urban Development Report

January 7, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the requirements of 42 U.S.C. 3536, I transmit herewith the 31st Annual Report of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which covers calendar year 1995.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 7, 1997.

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 8.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Department of Energy Report

January 7, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the requirements of section 657 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (Public Law 95–91; 42 U.S.C. 7267), I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Energy, which covers the years 1994 and 1995.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 7, 1997.

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 8.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Report on Hazardous Materials Transportation

January 7, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with Public Law 103–272, as amended (49 U.S.C. 5121(e)), I transmit herewith the Biennial Report on Hazardous Materials Transportation for Calendar Years 1994–1995 of the Department of Transportation.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 7, 1997.

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 8.

Message to the Senate Transmitting Protocols to the Chemical Weapons Convention

January 7, 1997

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, the following Protocols to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects: the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II or the amended Mines Protocol); the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III or the Incendiary Weapons Protocol); and the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV). Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is the report of the Department of State with respect to these Protocols, together with article-by-article analyses.

The most important of these Protocols is the amended Mines Protocol. It is an essential step forward in dealing with the problem of anti-personnel landmines (APL) and in minimizing the very severe casualties to civilians that have resulted from their use. It is an important precursor to the total prohibition of these weapons that the United States seeks.

Among other things, the amended Mines Protocol will do the following: (1) expand the scope of the original Protocol to include internal armed conflicts, where most civilian mine casualties have occurred; (2) require that all remotely delivered anti-personnel mines be equipped with self-destruct devices and backup self-deactivation features to en-