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Message to the Senate Transmitting World Intellectual Property Organization Treaties

July 28, 1997

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith for Senate advice and consent to ratification the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and the World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty, done at Geneva on December 20, 1996, and signed by the United States on April 12, 1997. Also transmitted is the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaties.

These Treaties are in the best interests of the United States. They ensure that international copyright rules will keep pace with technological change, thus affording important protection against piracy for U.S. rightsholders in the areas of music, film, computer software, and information products. The terms of the Treaties are thus consistent with the United States policy of encouraging other countries to provide adequate and effective intellectual property protection.

Legislation is required to implement certain provisions of the Treaties. Legislation is also required to ensure that parties to the Treaties are granted, under U.S. copyright law, the rights to which they are entitled under the Treaties. That legislation is being prepared and is expected to be submitted shortly.

I recommend, therefore, that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, and give its advice and consent to ratification, subject to a declaration under Article 15(3) of the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty described in the accompanying State Department report.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 28, 1997.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Protection of National Information Infrastructure

July 28, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 1061 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997, attached is a report, with attachments, covering Policy on Protection of National Information Infrastructure Against Strategic Attack.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 28, 1997.

Remarks at the Funeral Service for Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.

July 29, 1997

Mrs. Brennan, members of the Brennan family, Justices of the Supreme Court, Members of Congress, the administration, Father Jordan, Father O'Hara, Monsignor: Throughout our history, a few powerful ideals have transformed the lives of our people. And throughout our history, there have been a few individuals so devoted to those ideals they could hammer them on the anvil of history to reshape our land and our future.

Often, when our Nation could have fractured, a few have stepped into the breach, bringing us together and moving us forward. Justice Brennan found the ideals in the Constitution time and time again. And time and time again, he stepped into the breach to hammer them on the anvil of our history, saving us from our darker impulses and always pulling us together and pushing us forward. We thank God for his life and work, for Justice Brennan's America is America at its best. Today we recall his decency and grace which made out of his philosophical foes some close, personal friends. We recall his humor and humility, we recall his pride in his own heritage and the stunning, almost inexplicable empathy that enabled him to walk in the shoes of those whose lives were so very different from his own. We recall him