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Editor's Note: The President was in Boca Raton, FL, on October 31, 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

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Proclamation 7045—National Consumers Week, 1997

October 24, 1997

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Americans have always had a passion for fairness. It imbues the great charters on which our Nation is founded, and it is the cornerstone of our legal system. Fairness must also form the foundation of the American economy, an economy in which consumers rightly expect a "fair shake": honest transactions and safe, dependable goods and services.

Our economy has changed enormously during the past 200 years, developing from the agrarian system of the 18th century through the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century to the information revolution of our own era. Today, technological innovation is rapidly transforming our relationships with the marketplace and the goods and services we buy. However, despite these dramatic changes, basic consumer values remain the same. Consumers still expect quality and service for their money; they still place great importance on the safety and reliability of the products they buy; and they still want to know that businesses will meet these expectations.

In the days of Adam Smith, when products were less complicated and their quality more easily discerned, *caveat emptor* was the ruling principle of the marketplace. In today's economy, where the microchip has dramatically altered what we buy and how and where we buy it, products and services are much more complex, and consumers need better information and greater protection to ensure that the marketplace continues to treat them fairly.

The Consumer Bill of Rights, first articulated in President Kennedy's 1962 Special Message to Congress on Protecting the Consumer Interest, has evolved with our economy to meet the changing needs of the American people. Consumers today have the right to safety, the right to information, the right to choice, the right to be heard, the right to consumer education, and the right to service. They also deserve security for any personal information provided during the conduct of a transaction, whether in person or on the Internet. As we observe National Consumer Week, I urge the American people to learn more about their rights as responsible consumers and to reward those businesses that continue to give them a fair shake.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 25 through October 31, 1997, as National Consumers Week. I call upon government officials, industry leaders, and the American people to recognize the vital relationship between our economy and our citizenry, and to join me in reaffirming our commitment to fairness in the marketplace.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:25 a.m., October 27, 1997]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 28. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

October 25, 1997

The President. Good morning. I want to talk to you today about the vital importance of mammography in our fight against breast cancer. The tragedy of breast cancer has touched the lives of nearly every American family, including my own. This year alone, 180,000 women will be newly diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 women will die from the devastating disease.

Since I took office, fighting breast cancer has been one of my top priorities. We've nearly doubled funding for breast cancer research, prevention, and treatment. The recent discovery of two breast cancer genes by NIH scientists holds out great promise for new prevention strategies, and we continue to work to find a cure.

Until that day, we know that early detection is the most potent weapon we possess in our battle against breast cancer, and we know that mammography is the best way to detect breast cancer so that it can be treated before it's too late.

The First Lady and I have worked hard to make mammograms available to more women and to encourage more women to get mammograms. The historic balanced budget I signed into law last summer makes annual mammograms far more affordable for women on Medicare and extends this potentially life-saving benefit to all Medicare beneficiaries over the age of 40.

Hillary has led our national campaign to educate women about the vital importance of mammography, and I'd like to ask her to say a few words about it.

The First Lady. Mammography can mean the difference between life and death for millions of women. Yet I know from my conversations with women around the country, particularly older women, that far too many think they don't need mammograms because they are past their childbearing years. Others are afraid of mammograms. Still others don't know that their health insurance covers the test.

The National Mammography Campaign was launched to dispel myths and fears about mammography and to increase public awareness about Medicare coverage of mammograms. In the last 3 years, through community outreach, public service announcements, and partnerships with an energized business community, we have made a lot of progress. Now we must work even harder to reach women who, because of income, language, or cultural barriers, are the least likely to get mammograms.

The administration's Horizons project is doing exactly that, in six of our largest cities. This week we received the project's first report, and it is teaching us a great deal about how to reach older women who have not been getting mammograms. We are looking forward to taking what we have learned and bringing this knowledge to communities all over the country.

The President. The success of our campaign depends upon our ability to reach as many women as possible. This week, the National Cancer Institute is launching a wide-reaching education program to provide health professionals and women and their families with simple, straightforward information about the newest research and recommendations for early detection. These publications will reach thousands of women with a simple message. Mammograms are available, effective, and safe, and they can save your life.

When women do go for a mammogram, we must make sure they receive the highest quality care. High-quality mammograms can detect the vast majority of breast tumors and, when followed by prompt treatment, can reduce the risk of death by as much as 30 percent. Women need and deserve that security.

That is why today I'm pleased to announce new FDA regulations that will ensure medical facilities, health providers, and detection equipment are all held to the highest possible standards so that every woman gets the quality care she needs when she needs it most. With these steps, we're giving women and their families a powerful tool to fight breast cancer and new hope that the fight can be won.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 4:47 p.m. on October 24 in the Oval Office at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on October 25.

Remarks to the National Italian-American Foundation

October 25, 1997

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for the warm welcome. Thank you for singing "Happy Birthday" to Hillary. I think the reason she—[*applause*]—I think the reason she wanted to come here is she wanted to make sure she got an Italian birthday cake, and she did. [*Laughter*]

Thank you, Frank Guarini, for your warm words and your friendship and for your service on behalf of our country at the United Nations. Thank you, Frank Stella, and I'm glad to see all the Members of Congress here. We have some members of the administration here. We have Jack Valenti here, who lets me watch movies at the White House. [*Laughter*] The best perk of being President is the movie theater, plus knowing Jack Valenti. [*Laughter*]

I'm also very glad that the Deputy Prime Minister of Italy, Walter Veltroni, is here, and I thank him for his leadership. You know, I've been spoiled coming to these dinners. A couple of years ago I came and Danny DeVito was here, and he jumped in my lap. [*Laughter*] I was afraid Al Pacino would jump in my lap tonight—[*laughter*]—but I had other choices.

I want to thank you for the people you're honoring tonight for their service and for their representation of the values of the National American-Italian Foundation. Especially, I want to thank you for honoring my friend Leon Panetta. You heard Frank Guarini mention some, but I must say not all, of the Italian-Americans who have prominent positions in our administration. I'm sad to tell you that the complaint has been filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission claiming that I have overrepresented Italians in my administration—[*laughter*]—and I plead guilty.

I can't say enough about Leon Panetta. We went to Rome together, and I spoke, and Leon translated my speech. Most people thought he was giving the speech. [*Laughter*] I felt like that old joke about the Pope, you know, everybody said, "Who is that guy up there with Leon Panetta?" [*Laughter*] I miss him and Sylvia terribly, but I know they're having a good time in California. And I can tell you that if this country had a few more citizens like him, we would have a lot fewer problems, and I'm glad you're honoring him tonight. I would also like to congratulate and thank Congressman Tom Foglietta for his service, about-to-be service as our new Ambassador to Italy.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a night of joy and a night for the honorees, and I don't want to take a lot of your time. But I would like to say that, in a very real sense, what I have tried to do as President is to pursue a course that would reflect the values that are held so deeply by Italian-American families who have come to our shores and who have enjoyed such great success.

When I came here, I thought that Washington was, frankly, too divided, not just politically between Democrats and Republicans but almost intellectually divided. Everything was either/or. Should the Government do everything, or should it do nothing? The answer is, it should do neither. It should focus on giving people the tools to succeed and helping other people to climb the ladder that so many of you have climbed.

With so many people having to work and having children, should they have to choose? Of course not. Sometimes I still believe that our greatest challenge is to enable Americans to succeed at work and at home at their most important job, raising their children. Should we be able to grow our economy and preserve our natural heritage? I think we should. I think that is a false choice.

So I ask you all, whether you're Republicans or Democrats or wherever you are on the political spectrum, to always, always say that the United States should pursue a course that is consistent with our values and not be fooled into thinking that we have to sacrifice things that are fundamental to move ahead. The truth is, when we find a way to move ahead consistent with our values, we do better more quickly.

I'm very grateful for the success that the United States is enjoying today, and I'm grateful for the role that Italian-Americans have played in it, and I hope we can continue to do more.

Finally, let me say I'm very grateful to this organization for the support you've given to

our administration in this great national conversation we're having about our racial and ethnic diversity. It's going to be quite a challenge, you know, sometime in the next century the United States will have no single majority ethnic group—even Americans of European origin. I know you hate being lumped with we Irish and the Germans and all the rest of us—[*laughter*]—but even the Europeans won't be a majority in America anymore.

And somehow, we have to find a way to celebrate our differences, just as you come here to celebrate your heritage and still be bound together by fundamental values that are more important, into one America. If we do that—and I believe we will—it will be in no small measure because of the accomplishments, the achievements, the attitudes of people like you, people who are proud to have succeeded and want other people to have the same chance.

Sometimes, I think late at night about if I could say in one sentence what it is that I want, I'd like for every single child in this country to have that chance at the brass ring. And so many of you have enjoyed it, so many of you have been helped by your parents to do so. I hope that when we're done here—it won't be much longer, just a little over 3 years—virtually every child will be able to feel that he or she has that chance. If so, we will have fulfilled the mission that so many of you have been on.

So, once again, my congratulations to all the honorees. I thank you for giving Leon a chance to come back to Washington. He tries to stay away from here as much as he can now. [*Laughter*] I thank you for bringing all these wonderful Italian-American artists here so that I can see people I usually only watch on the screen or listen to with my CD's. But most of all, I thank you for all you've done to make America a much, much greater country than it would have been without you.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:35 p.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Frank J. Guarini, vice chairman, Frank D. Stella, chairman, National Italian-American Foundation; Jack Valenti, president, Motion Picture Association of America; actors Danny DeVito and Al Pacino; and former Chief of Staff to the President Leon Panetta and his wife, Sylvia.

Remarks Honoring the 1997 NCAA Men's and Women's National Basketball Champions

October 27, 1997

Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. You see my voice is a little weak. You'll be happy it will be a shorter speech.

But we're celebrating two other athletic events here today. I think I would be remiss if I did not congratulate the Florida Marlins and the Cleveland Indians on a magnificent World Series, and the Vice President on finishing his first marathon yesterday. [*Laughter*]

I'd also like to welcome the Lady Vols back. It's tough to win those back-to-back championships. Al Gore and I know something about that. [*Laughter*] And there are many benefits about having Pat Summit come back here year-in and year-out. I'm getting to watch her son grow up—[*laughter*]—and I enjoy it very much.

I want to say a special word of appreciation, since the Vice President got to talk about his native team—you know, a lot of you know that I am a fanatic basketball fan, and I got hurt last year right before the tournament. The only good thing about my agonizing injury incurred under humiliating circumstances—I fell 6 inches and tore my leg off—[*laughter*]—was that I got to see every game in the tournament that was on any channel on television. And I must say I was astonished by the performance of the Arizona Wildcats. They were young, they were energetic, they never quit. And I think that it will be a long time before we see another team so young, so full of energy, so full of depth, beat three number one seeds, which had never happened before, and produce the kind of record they did in that tournament.

I want to congratulate Miles Simon, who was named the MVP of the tournament; Michael Dickerson, a First Team All Pac 10; Michael Bibby, who was the All Tournament Team and the Pac 10 Freshman of the Year. He didn't look like a freshman on the court,

I must say. And Coach Olson, I want to congratulate you on taking a team to the tournament I think every year since 1985, which is a truly astonishing record.

I think that I would be remiss if I did not also say that there are many of us in the United States who love basketball, who also want basketball to be a good experience for the basketball players, and who want them to become fine citizens, fine young men and fine young women. We talked about Pat Summit's students all getting their degrees. I think everybody who knows anything about Lute Olson admires him as a person, as well as a basketball coach, and admires the qualities that he represents and tries to impart to his players. So, in spite of all the championships, I think that's the most important thing of all, and we thank you for that, as well.

Now I'd like to get on with having the two coaches, in clear and strong voice, and their players presented to all of you. So I'd like to invite Coach Summit and Coach Olson to come up and share a few words.

NOTE: The President spoke at noon in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Pat Summit, coach, University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers; and Lute Olson, coach, and team members Miles Simon, Michael Dickerson, and Michael Bibby, University of Arizona Wildcats.

Remarks to the Democratic Leadership Council

October 27, 1997

Thank you very much. If you listen closely, you will hear that I am in my annual voiceless mode. [*Laughter*] I think I can get through this talk. We celebrated Hillary's 50th birthday over the weekend. A lot of our friends came in, and the weather changed. And about once a year when this happens, this happens. [*Laughter*] I'll do my best.

Let me thank Al From and Senator Lieberman. My good friend Sandy Robertson, thank you for what you said. To all the Members of the Senate and House who are here and who have been so good to the DLC over the years; to all my predecessors as chairman of the DLC, including several Members of the Congress and former Congressman McCurdy.

It's hard for me to believe that it's been 7 years since Al From, in his sort of gentle, demure way—[*laughter*]—persuaded me to become chairman of the DLC. It's hard to believe it's been 6 years since I announced my candidacy for President, nearly 5 years, since we began to work together to prepare America for the 21st century. But it has been.

And for nearly 5 years, we have worked together on a simple but profound vision to say that the American dream should be alive for everybody who is responsible enough to work for it, that our country must continue to lead the world for peace and freedom and prosperity, that we have to find a way to bring our people together across all the lines that divide us into one America.

The success of the last 5 years owes much to the ideas and the work of the DLC and its grassroots leaders, going back to the mid-1980's, when a small handful of us organized it. Even then, the DLC was working to go beyond the stale debate and the false choices of Washington, DC, with modern policies, good ideas, mainstream values. Today, from time to time, I still lament the fact that we have not rid the rhetoric of our Nation's Capital of a lot of the old debate and a lot of the old false choices. But believe you me, out there in the real world where Americans live, we're a long way from where we were just 5 years ago, and you should be very proud of it.

First, we had to define what the role of Government should be in preparing our country for the future. We had to reject the idea of those who say we should do nothing with Government and reject those who say we should try to do everything. Instead, we gave the American people a Government that is very much smaller, more focused, but more committed to giving people the tools and the conditions they need to make the most of their own lives.

Then we had to go area by area to abandon those old false choices, the sterile debate about whether you would take the liberal or the conservative position, that only succeeded in dividing America and holding us back.

On the economy, we replaced trickle-down economics and its huge deficits with invest-and-grow economics, a strategy aimed at both reducing the deficit and investing in our people. On crime, we replaced all the tough talk with tough action, with a strategy that had both punishment and prevention, along with more police officers on the street. On welfare, we went beyond those who were complacent on the one side and those who condemned all people on welfare on the other, with a strategy that is tough on work but good for children and welfare families. On education, we went beyond the old debate of abandoning public education altogether or simply throwing more money at the status quo with a strategy of standards, reform, and investment. On the environment, we rejected the idea that protecting the health of our families has to hurt the economy. Instead, we embraced a strategy designed to preserve and enhance the environment and our public health while growing the economy. We also restored the primacy of family and community to our work with initiatives like family and medical leave, the dramatic expansion of the earned-income tax credit, the empowerment zones for distressed areas in our inner cities, AmeriCorps, the national service proposal, which the DLC did so much to begin. And along the way, we soundly defeated the Republican Party's 1995 Contract With America.

Our philosophy of opportunity, responsibility, and community, guideposts embraced by the DLC before 1993, are now America's guideposts to the 21st century. Our vision has, in large measure, become America's vision. And because of that, America is stronger than it has been in a long time: our economy, the healthiest in the world; our social fabric mending; our international leadership unchallenged. With 13 million new jobs, low inflation, low unemployment, homeownership at an all-time high, crime down for 5 years in a row, record millions of people moving from welfare to work, we are preparing America for the 21st century.

Once again, we face the future with confidence, confidence that must give us strength for the work ahead. For today I want to talk to you about that—what we still have to do to prepare our people for this new era. Today, it seems to me the central challenge for the DLC, for all Democrats, indeed, for all Americans, is how to seize the benefits of a new economy in a way that benefits all our people, that keeps us all moving forward together.

The cutting-edge industries of the future, computers, biotech, aerospace—in those, America leads the world. We also lead the world again for the first time since the seventies in automobile production and sales. In sectors old and new, information and technology and global commerce are leading the transformation. The new wealth of nations is to be found in skills, knowledge, and imagination. But this must also be backed up by strong trade policies, strong economic policies, a commitment to the environment and to giving all our people the chance to succeed.

Here again, this must not be an either/or choice. We must embrace both the global economy and the idea that there should be a social compact of mutual interdependence and responsibility.

Now, in the industrial age, the progressive movement and the New Deal forged the social compact in which the success of the economy was premised on the security of working people. The 20th century social compact served us very well. It built our middle class. It embodied the American dream. But it is not adequate to deal with the rapid change and energy of the information economy.

Therefore, it is up to us—to all of us—the generation of the computer evolution, to craft a new social compact for a new economy, a new understanding of the responsibilities of Government and business and every one of us of what we owe to each other. It is up to us to make sure that our people have the strength, the skills, the security, the flexibility we need to reap the rewards of the 21st century.

Now, when I took office in 1993, the new economy was within reach, but our policies were keeping it from us, building up big deficits, high unemployment, stagnant wages. We took a new and different approach—first, to reduce the deficit, to free our people of the dead weight that had been on us since the 1980's. In 1993, with your strong support,

we did just that. Normally, I don't dwell on the past, but I think it's worth pointing out one more time: the deficit reduction plan of 1993 was supported only by Democrats and acted in the face of the most withering partisan criticism and real political risk that cost some Members their positions in Congress. Well, it's time for the naysayers to admit they were wrong. It worked, and America is better for it.

On the day I took office, the deficit was $290 billion. I am pleased to tell you that today the budget deficit this past year was $22.6 billion. That is a reduction of $267 billion, more than 90 percent, even before the balanced budget law saves one red cent. The Democratic Party gave that to America, and I am proud of them for doing it.

Our deficit today is the smallest share of our economy since 1970, the first time in 50 years the deficit has gone down 5 years in a row, the first time in decades our economy has grown while the deficit went down, not up. Now the balanced budget law will complete the process, give us the first balanced budget in a generation. And I hope the DLC will always be proud of its role in replacing trickle-down economics with invest-and-grow economics.

The second strategy of—the second element of our strategy has been to expand exports. You all know the arithmetic: We are 4 percent of the world's population, 20 percent of its income, 96 percent of the world's consumers live somewhere else, the developing countries are growing 3 times as fast as the developed countries. We are the world's number one exporter. If we want to keep our income, with our population base, we have to sell even more to the other 96 percent, especially those who are growing the most rapidly.

Export-related jobs pay more. Fully a third of our economic growth in the past 5 years came from trade. This has happened in no small measure because we have negotiated tough trade agreements—over 200 of them—to open new markets to American products. Our markets in general have been open to the world for decades. The core of our international economic strategy has been to open the world's markets to us. Our workers, when given a fair chance, can out-compete anyone. When I've had the authority to make broad agreements, I have used it in America's interest.

That's why it's critically important that the President be given this fast-track authority again, to negotiate trade agreements and submit them to Congress, the same authority every President of either party has had since Gerald Ford, the ability to create open and fair trade for business and working people and to advance our prosperity.

Let me just give you one example. The information technology agreement we reached with 37 other nations just a year ago will eliminate tariffs and unshackle trade of $500 billion in computers, semiconductors, and telecommunications. This $5-billion cut in tariffs on American products can lead to hundreds of thousands of high-wage jobs for our people. And we can do more of this if I have the power to do it.

I want to open trade in areas where American firms are leading: computer software, medical equipment, environmental technology. I want to open foreign markets to our agricultural products that aren't open to them now. I want to open the markets of Chile and other Latin nations to our goods and services, and other nations that are growing 3 times the rate of the American, the European, and the Japanese economies. If we don't seize these opportunities, our competitors will.

Last year, for the first time in recent history, Latin American nations had more trade with Europe than the United States. Now that Canada has negotiated a trade agreement with Chile, every major economy in the hemisphere has duty-free access to Chile's markets but one—ours. Now, that's a bad deal for our businesses and our workers. It's an ''America last'' strategy. For the life of me, I can't figure out why anybody in the wide world believes it will create jobs for us to stay out of markets that other people are in, when we can win the competitive wars.

The fast-track legislation I support is responsible. It recognizes that America is not alone in needing to see that the new economy is accompanied with a new social contract. It will give us leverage to make progress with our trading partners on child labor, labor standards, generally, the environment. The

most detailed and concrete authority for these issues ever to be included in this kind of legislation is in bills reported out by the committees.

Now, there are some who want more, who would prescribe what has to be in a trade agreement even before I negotiate it. They want to delay fast-track authority because they don't think, apparently, I have enough of it. But walking away from this opportunity will not create a single job. It will not save jobs. It will not keep a single child in another country out of a sweatshop. It will not clean up a single toxic site in another nation. Turning away will not expand our economy, enhance our competitiveness, empower our workers. It will simply give away markets and jobs and global leadership that Americans should have.

Now, again, I say, like so many other things, this is not an either/or proposition. I want to thank you for fighting for fast track. I want to ask you to keep fighting for it. I still believe we're going to win it. But we have to fight every day till the last vote is taken. But I also want to challenge all of you here to recognize that those of us who support open trade and want to reap its benefits have a responsibility to figure out what no advanced society has yet fully done, which is how can you embrace all the changes of the technological information age, all the changes of the global economy, and still preserve some measure of social contract so that everybody who's responsible has a chance to get a good education, to find a decent job, to build a strong family, to be part of a thriving community.

What is the new social compact? Well, we know at a minimum it's investing in the skills of all our people. We know that the core of any agreement in society in this economy must say that we have to equip everyone to reap the rewards of change. The risk and rewards of this economy don't fall evenly. Those who are better educated, who are flexible, who have skills and confidence to move on from one job to another and seize new opportunities, they are rewarded.

Therefore, we must make education our most important tool in erecting this new social compact. We cannot rest until we know that every one of our 8-year-olds can read, every 12-year-old can log on to the Internet, every 18-year-old can go to college, every adult can learn for a lifetime. And as I said at the beginning, we have to say in education we must be—to succeed—for standards, reform, and investment.

We've worked hard to open the doors of college to all who want to go—the biggest increased investment in higher education in 50 years. We're moving forward to renew our public schools with school choice and thousands of charter schools which the DLC has been so strongly advocating, to connect every classroom to the Internet by 2000, to raise standards so that every child can master the basics.

And again, I say, if Congress walks away from this standards fight, I can't for the life of me see how we're going to help one single, solitary poor child by saying, ''It's okay with us if you stay in a school, and you get out, and we don't know whether you know math or whether you can master the language or not.'' That is a terrible mistake, and you ought to hang in there with me on the standards fight and make sure we win it.

Today, good news—I expect to sign into law full funding for the America Reads challenge, which will significantly increase support, Senator Wofford, for AmeriCorps, a legacy of the DLC, so that our young citizen service can harness the energy of a whole army of volunteer tutors, now including over 800 colleges and universities in America who are going out into schools to teach young children to read.

We are trying to create opportunity and security for working people in other ways: giving them more pension portability and security, making it easier for people to carry their health insurance around, investing more in the health insurance of children of working families who don't have it now, the big increase in the earned-income tax credit. All these things will help people to build coherent work, family, and community life in the midst of change.

Our new balanced budget provides for more investment in empowerment zones, new community development financial institutions to help those areas that haven't been hurt by trade but haven't been helped by it either—all in the name of trying to make it

possible for us to have a coherent life for responsible citizens in America, to empower people so that they can make their way.

Now, I think we have a special obligation to people who have not felt any benefits from this economic program. And I think we have a special obligation for those who are going to be displaced. I have never denied that with every economic change there would be displacement. But there has always been displacement. When we had electricity, the people who made candles didn't have so many jobs. Does that mean they weren't good people, that their lives had less meaning, that they had no dignity? Of course not. But it also meant we didn't abandon electricity.

So what is the proper answer? The proper answer is to recognize fully and frankly that we have not done as well as we should to deal with people who are displaced by the modern economy. We need to be humble about this. Nobody has solved this problem. You look at every advanced economy, they're trying to struggle with this. Nobody has a magic bullet, but we know we have to do better. And the DLC ought to be on the front line of saying, "You bet we're for fast track, but, no, we don't want to leave those people who lose their jobs behind. And, yes, we understand there are neighborhoods in this country where there still hasn't been any economic prosperity, and you bet we're concerned about them, too." That ought to be our contribution to this debate—more trade and more opportunity to make it in the new economy for everybody.

We're working with some Members of Congress to develop new initiatives to bring more Americans into the winner's circle, which we will announce next week. We also have to increase our investment in workers who do lose their jobs, whether it's because of a trade agreement, technology, or for any reason. We have to increase our investment in communities that suffer from dislocation.

We have learned a lot from our experience with military base closures. And based on that, we're going to step up our involvement when a factory closes because of trade or technology. And we have to do more to tap the potential of our inner cities and our poor rural communities. They are the great, nearest untapped market for American enterprise, the most important source of new economic growth. And we have to lift people up there so they can become a part of the growing middle class.

All of these things we have to do, balance the budget, expand exports, invest in our people, this will create a vital new economy. It is a strategy that has been developed and hammered into place out of the ideas that the DLC was advocating a long time ago. Now, we can't turn back, and our party can't turn back. We need an economy for the 21st century, a Democratic Party for the 21st century to lead the way.

Every generation of Americans, at every critical juncture of our history, has fulfilled its responsibility to the progress of our great American experiment. And each step along the way has required us not only to advocate our independence but to acknowledge our interdependence.

The first American social compact was forged by the Pilgrims braving stormy seas to flee religious persecution and begin anew. As he came to join this colony, John Winthrop told his shipmates gathered in the hold of their ship that in America we must be knit together in this work as one man—rejoice together, mourn together, labor and suffer together, always having before our eyes our community in the work, our community as members of one body.

At the dawn of the new century, we ought to remember Mr. Winthrop as we write a new social compact. We must be the authors of our time. We can master this new economy, but we have to do it as one America.

Thank you. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:40 p.m. in the Regency Ballroom at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Al From, president, Democratic Leadership Council, and Sandy Robertson, event chairman.

Statement on Signing the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998

October 27, 1997

I have signed into law today H.R. 2158, the ''Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998.''

This Act will fund vital environmental, veterans, housing, community development, space, and science programs. Specifically, it provides funding for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and several other agencies.

The Act funds a number of my Administration's high priorities, including the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) fund. National Service gives young people the opportunity to obtain funded for a college education while serving the country in areas of great need, such as the environment, public safety, and human services. While the Congress did not fully meet my request for America Reads within National Service, there are funds to give additional tutors the opportunity to help young students in their community. Funding for CDFI will increase the flow of capital to distressed neighborhoods and their currently underserved low-income residents, and provide financing for neighborhood redevelopment and revitalization efforts.

The Act provides $7.4 billion for the EPA, which will enable the agency to adequately enforce our environmental laws. I am pleased that H.R. 2158 fully funds my request for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, adequately funds the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and provides an advance appropriation for Superfund, the EPA's major program that ensures the continued cleanup of hazardous waste sites. I am, however, concerned about reductions to the 1998 requested levels for Superfund, the U.S. Climate Change Action Plan, the Montreal Protocol efforts to prevent ozone layer depletion, and EPA's right-to-know programs. These reductions impede our ability to clean up 900 Superfund sites by the year 2000, hamper our ability to meet our international commitments on climate change and ozone depletion, and deprive our citizens of needed environmental information.

The Act provides $24 billion in funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including full funding for my request to renew expiring Section 8 contracts, thus assuring continuation of HUD rental subsidies for low-income tenants in privately owned housing. Funding is also provided for programs such as the HOME Investment Partnership program, Community Development Block Grants, and HOPE VI for severely distressed public housing. I am pleased that the bill continues to support States and cities through these vital economic development programs. The Act also funds my request for Brownfields redevelopment, an initiative to redevelop abandoned sites and return them to productive uses and thereby help communities revitalize these areas. The Act also fully funds my requests for Homeless Assistance Grants and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, and provides funding, although not my full request, for antidiscrimination efforts, including the Fair Housing Initiatives program.

The Act contains a major initiative to reduce the costs of Section 8 contract renewals for FHA-insured properties. The Act recognizes the gravity of the situation and provides HUD with many new tools. At the same time, I am concerned that provisions within the Act could limit FHA's ability to design efficient partnerships, increasing costs to the FHA insurance fund, and could restrict opportunities for assisted tenants to use portable vouchers to seek out the housing that best meets their particular needs. I am also concerned that there is no direct and explicit solution for the tax consequences that threaten the restructuring process.

The Act fully funds my request of $17.6 billion for the medical care of this Nation's veterans and contains my requested user fee proposal, funded at $0.6 billion. This new

revenue source gives the Department of Veterans Affairs the incentive to improve its collections while ensuring more control over its future viability as a health-care provider.

Unfortunately, the Act also eliminates funding for the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs, which has served Presidents of both parties over three decades. I will work to ensure that a consumer voice is maintained from existing agency resources.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 27, 1997.

NOTE: H.R. 2158, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 105–65.

Statement on Signing the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998

October 27, 1997

I am pleased to sign into law today H.R. 2169, the "Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998."

This legislation provides funds to improve safety on our highways, airways, and waterways. It would also permit the highest level of Federal infrastructure investment in history—investment to improve our Nation's highways, transit systems, Amtrak, and airports and, as a result, improve personal mobility and make America a better global competitor.

Unfortunately the Congress has done only half the job in passing this legislation. Authorization of the Federal grant programs for highways, transit, and highway safety expired on September 30, 1997. Until the Congress reauthorizes those programs within the constraints of the Balanced Budget Act, we have only the promise of record-high investment levels, not the reality.

I submitted my proposal to reauthorize those programs, called "The National Economic Crossroads Transportation Efficiency Act" (NEXTEA), last March. The Congress has held hearings and begun work on this legislation. But, as we near the end of the first month of fiscal 1998, the Congress has not presented me with legislation that would reauthorize these programs.

I call on the Congress to act—before it adjourns for the year—on a multi-year reauthorization bill that will give transportation planners and decision-makers the assurance of multi-year funding levels that they can use to continue to improve America's vital transportation network. My Administration stands ready to assist the Congress to resolve the issues and agree on a multi-year bill.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 27, 1997.

NOTE: H.R. 2169, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 105–66.

Remarks at a Birthday Party for the First Lady in Chicago, Illinois

October 27, 1997

The President. Thank you very much. You can hear I'm a little hoarse tonight, but I'll do my best to be heard over the din. Let me say to all of you, first of all, thank you, Mr. Mayor, thank you Mrs. Daley; thank you, Lois Weisberg. I thank all the committee, everybody who had anything to do with this day today. You have made Hillary and, I might say, her mother and her brothers who came with her today—you've made their whole family very happy. This has been an unforgettable day in her life, and I am profoundly grateful to all of you, and I thank you very much.

You know, before I met Hillary, you could put what I knew about Chicago in a thimble and have space left over. [*Laughter*] About a week after I met Hillary, I thought there was no other city on the face of the Earth. [*Laughter*] I'll never forget the first time I came here to visit Hillary. I remember only two things: her father would not come outside to say hello to me—[*laughter*]—which I thought showed good judgment on his part—[*laughter*]—and she took me to Chicago and showed me the city. And I fell in love with it then—that was a long time ago now—and I have been ever since.

This is a magnificent place. You have done unbelievable things. You're in the process of

doing other unbelievable things. They may well make a larger chapter in the history of this city, but you will never have a kinder, better, warmer gesture than the one you've given Hillary today, and I will never forget it as long as I live. Thank you very, very much.

Audience member. Four more years!

The President. It's not constitutional. [*Laughter*]

I want to ask Hillary to come up now. You have to remember—this birthday—she wore it lightly for a long time, but her staff started celebrating 50 days before the event. They wanted her to recognize precisely how old she was by giving her one present a day for 50 days up to the blessed event—[*laughter*]—which occurred yesterday. Now she's still celebrating it as if she's going to hold on for dear life. [*Laughter*] Whatever she wants to do, I'm for.

Ladies and gentlemen, our First Lady.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:25 p.m. in Gar Hall at the Chicago Cultural Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago and his wife, Margaret, and Chicago Commissioner of Culture Affairs Lois Weisberg. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at the Oscar Mayer Elementary School in Chicago

October 28, 1997

Thank you very much. Thank you, Evaline, and thank you, Mary. Thank you, Maggie Sullivan. Mr. Blitstein, thank you for welcoming me here.

I have been officially welcomed. [*Laughter*] I have my Oscar Mayer wiener here. When Hillary was teaching me about Chicago so long ago, we learned to sing the Oscar Mayer song. [*Laughter*]

Congressman, Mayor, Mr. Chico, Mr. Vallace, Ms. Buckney, Alderman Bernardina, Alderman O'Connor, Recorder White. I don't know if my friend John Stroger is here or not, but if he is, hello. I am delighted to be here today.

As all of you know, I'm sure, my wife had a wonderful day in Chicago yesterday, and her whole family was here. And I was regaled with it last night, everything that happened. Chicago is a really special place, and the people who are tied to it have this almost psychic energy, I think, about what's going on.

For example, on the way in to Chicago, my brother-in-law told me, he said, ''I got good feelings about this.'' He said, ''I even think the Bears are going to win.'' [*Laughter*] I swear he did. So there is something quite mystical about all this but also something very wonderful. I thank you for letting me come here.

I wanted to be here today because this school is the embodiment of the effort that I have asked Americans to make to prepare our country for the 21st century, to make sure we have an America where every person who is responsible enough to work for it can live the American dream, where we're still strong enough to lead the world for peace and freedom and prosperity, and where we look across all of our diversity and come together as one America.

I know today a lot of Americans are focused on the stock market. It may be disappointing, but I think it is neither prudent nor appropriate for any President to comment on the hour-by-hour or the day-by-day movements of the market. I'd like to ask all of us to remember that our economy is as strong and vibrant today as it has been in a generation. We saw yesterday that our deficit has come down to $22 billion from $290 billion. That's the lowest since 1970.

With unemployment and inflation at their lowest levels in two decades, businesses and banks healthy and sound, new jobs being created every day, our economy is continuing to grow steady and strong. That's why we have to feel confident and continue our economic strategy. We've got to balance the budget, expand trade, and invest in the education of all our people.

Now, on that last score—in spite of all the economic progress we're making, in spite of the fact that crime is down 5 years in a row, that we have the lowest percentage of people on welfare we've had since 1970—millions of people have left the rolls—on education, we know we've got a lot more to do to make sure all children receive the world-class education they deserve to thrive in the information economy of the 21st century. That's why

I've put educational excellence and opportunity at the top of America's agenda, and that's why I've come to Oscar Mayer school, to thank the mayor, the principals, the teachers, the students, the parents, and the people of Chicago for leading this crusade.

Because of what you are doing, the city that works now has a school system on the move. Chicago has shown us that having high expectations for our children, setting high standards and holding students accountable for them and, above all, making sure we stay at it, systematically, school-by-school, child-by-child. Chicago has shown us that this works.

By abolishing the destructive practice of social promotion and giving all children the chance to learn what they need to know, Chicago is leading the way to an educated America, in which every 8-year-old can read independently, every 12-year-old can log on to the Internet, every 18-year-old can go on to college, every adult can keep on learning for a lifetime. That is the vision I want for every American community, and Chicago is leading the way.

Last summer, I signed into law the historic Balanced Budget Act, which will help to bring us closer to these goals. It will open the doors to college for everyone who is willing to work for it, through more Pell Grants and work-study positions, better student loans, tax-free education IRA's, the HOPE scholarship, and other tax credits for all forms of education after high school. We're also well on our way to putting computers in all our classrooms by the year 2000 and hooking them up to the Internet.

But none of it will matter if our children don't master the basics. That's why I'm fighting to bring our America Reads program to every community in the country, gathering an army of volunteers led by our AmeriCorps young people to go in and offer to tutor one-on-one all children who are having trouble reading. Today, we already have 800 colleges, tens of thousands of students who are moving into our schools and supporting our children in this way.

I'm also fighting to introduce more choice and competition into our public schools and to establish thousands of charter schools within the public school network so people, where they need it, can actually fashion schools designed to meet the special needs of special populations.

I want to support communities in making our schools places of learning and values, not violence and disorder. And I applaud what your principal said about the character education program here. We ought to have that in every school in the United States. And I think we have to do more to empower parents to take an active role in their children's education. I always love to come to a school where a parent and a student talk, and I was glad to see them both doing such a good job today. Yes, give them a hand. That's good. [*Applause*]

But you can do all this and you still have to have high expectations, high standards, and some accountability, because people have to be working toward a goal and they have to know what the goal is. That's why I've worked so hard for the concept of academic standards in the basics that we say should apply to every child in America, and to establish voluntary tests to measure the students' performance, beginning with fourth-grade reading and eighth-grade math. This will give our parents and our teachers the assurance that their children have mastered the basics. This will let every employer know that a diploma means something, a job applicant can read a manual, tally a check, analyze and solve a problem, and become a dependable employee.

I want to thank the mayor for his early support of national standards, and I thank the city of Chicago for joining with 14 other major American cities for pledging to make sure their students meet them. This is a truly groundbreaking development. If anyone had told any of us who had been working for 20 years in the area of school improvement 10 years ago that 15 of the biggest cities in America would be leading, not bringing up the rear but leading, the fight for higher standards for our children, recognizing that our poorest children and the kids that grow up in the toughest neighborhoods are the ones who need the standards the most, no one would have believed it. This is an astonishing, positive development, and you should all be very proud of it.

I can remember a few years ago when the only news those of us who didn't live in Illinois got about the Chicago school system was the annual strike. [*Laughter*] I can remember we used to see a picture of the Governor's daughter in his office, waiting for the strike to be over, hanging around with her dad. And I now see what has happened. A whole people, led by a strong mayor and dedicated educators, have rejected low test scores, high drop-out rates, students earning diplomas they couldn't read, and instead have demanded results from their principals, their teachers, their schools, and most importantly, the students, letting them know they can't move on to the next grade unless they know what they're supposed to know from the grade they're finishing. You've strengthened curricula, renovated buildings, retrained teachers, expanded preschool education, kept schools open longer in the summertime to give children who need it extra help.

I'd like to say here, for the rest of America that might be watching this today, something that you have taught us: Ending social promotion does not put children down; it gives us a chance to lift all children up. We are not punishing children by making sure they know what they need to know and that when they move from grade to grade, it means something. And we don't do anyone, especially our poorest children in our toughest neighborhoods, a favor by giving them a pass on high standards. All of our children can succeed, and they deserve a chance to do it, even, if all else fails, repeating a grade.

You know, people used to say that asking a child to repeat a grade was too high a price to pay for learning because of the damage to self-esteem. But we know that children develop in different ways at different times. And we know that while a year seems like an eternity to an 8-year-old child or a 16-year-old child, when you're 50, it seems like nothing. [*Laughter*]

I care a lot about the self-esteem of the American people. But I would ask you to think about the thousands of Americans who are sitting in GED classes today, struggling in literacy programs, standing in unemployment lines, who can tell you there is nothing more damaging to self-esteem than wanting a job and not being able to get one; wanting to get an improvement, a promotion, a raise, and not having the skills necessary to get it. And if we adults send our children the right messages now, their self-esteem will not be harmed by an expression of love and hope for their future that prevents that sort of problem for them later on.

I want what is happening in Chicago to happen all over America. I challenge every school district to adopt high standards, to abolish social promotion, to move aggressively to help all students make the grade through tutoring and summer school, and to hold schools accountable for results, giving them the tools and the leadership and the parental involvement to do the job.

Today I am directing the Department of Education to share promising approaches to improving low-performing schools, such as those that Chicago has developed, with people all across America. And I'm directing the Department of Education to strengthen its own efforts to help districts use the Federal money that we have now to transform schools that aren't performing into world-class learning centers.

There is nothing wrong with America that can't be fixed by what's right with America. I said that in my first Inaugural; I see it again today. If you did it here, it can be done everywhere. If it's happened to one child, it can happen to every child. What is working in Chicago must blow like a wind of change into every city and every school in America. We owe it to our kids, and because you have done it, you've given us the courage and the conviction to believe we can do it for all of our children.

Thank you. Stay with it. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:34 a.m., in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Evaline Medina, fourth-grade student who introduced the President, and her mother, Mary Medina; Maggie Sullivan, sixth-grade teacher; Robert Blitstein, principal; Gary Chico, president, board of trustees, Paul Vallace, chief executive officer; and Cozette Buckney, chief education officer, Chicago Public Schools; Charles R. Bernardina, alderman, 43d ward; Patrick J. O'Connor, alderman, 40th ward; Jesse C. White, Jr., Cook County recorder of deeds; and John Stroger, president, Cook County board of commissioners.

Memorandum on Low-Performing Public Schools

October 28, 1997

Memorandum for the Secretary of Education

Subject: Turning Around Low-Performing Public Schools

Since taking office in 1993, and with your strong leadership, my Administration has pursued a comprehensive effort to strengthen public schools. We have worked to raise academic standards, promote accountability, and provide greater competition and choice within the public schools, including support for a dramatic increase in charter schools. Moreover, we have worked to make the investments necessary to improve teaching and learning in classrooms across America, through efforts to keep our schools safe and free of drugs; to provide students who need it extra help to master the basics; to increase parental and community involvement; to recruit, prepare, and provide continuing training to teachers and reward excellence in teaching; and to make sure every school has access to and can effectively use 21st century technology.

This strategy is starting to produce results. We know that all students can learn to high standards, and that every school can succeed if it has clear instructional goals and high expectations for all of its students; if it creates a safe, disciplined and orderly environment for learning; helps parents be involved in their children's education; and uses proven instructional practices. All schools must be given the resources, tools, and flexibility to help every student reach high standards.

Yet, no school improvement strategy can succeed without real accountability for results, as measured by student achievement. Excellent schools and schools that show significant improvement must be recognized and rewarded. At the same time, schools that demonstrate persistently poor academic performance—schools that fail to make adequate progress in educating all students to high standards—must be held accountable. No American child deserves to get a second-class education. Instead, State and local education officials must step in and redesign failing schools, or close them down and reopen them with new, more effective leadership and staff.

A growing number of cities and States have begun to take these steps. Cities such as Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia, and New York, and States such as Maryland and Kentucky identify low-performing schools and take steps to intervene if these schools fail to make progress. These steps often include the implementation of school improvement plans—providing afterschool academic help to students, strengthening training and assistance for school staff, creating smaller and more personal settings, such as schools-within-schools—and, where necessary, reconstitution of the school and replacement of the school principal and other staff.

We must encourage and help more cities and States to take up the challenge of turning around low-performing schools and helping the students they serve get back on the path to achievement. We can do this by making widely available information on what works and what doesn't, and by ensuring that Department of Education resources are most productively used for these purposes.

In order to accomplish this, I am directing the Department of Education to take the following actions within 90 days:

1. *Produce and Widely Disseminate Guidelines on Effective Approaches to Turning Around Low-Performing Schools.* There is much of value to be shared from the experiences of cities and States that already have successfully intervened in low-performing schools; from research and development on effective school improvement practices; and from business experience in managing high-performance organizations and in turning around low-performing companies. We know of several promising models of reform, ranging from the New American Schools designs to the Success for All program. These lessons must be summarized in clear and usable forms, and made widely available to educators, parents, State and local policymakers, business leaders, and others working to improve public education.
2. *Help Cities and States Use Existing Department of Education Resources to Turn Around Low-Performing Schools.*

First, Department of Education programs should help and encourage more cities and States to develop and implement sound, comprehensive approaches to turn around low-performing schools and help students in them get a better education. The Department should develop a plan to provide technical assistance to cities and States seeking to turn around failing schools. In addition, the Department should inform cities and States of how they can use funds from existing Department programs to support their objectives. Many programs, such as Title I, Goals 2000, the Public Charter Schools Program, and the 21st Century Schools Program, are well suited for intervening in failing schools, because they can be used to provide extra help to students during and after the school day; to support high quality professional development for teachers; and to plan and implement effective school reforms. The Department should ensure that local school districts can easily and effectively access Federal funds from such programs and use them in an integrated fashion to support comprehensive efforts to improve low-performing schools. Where there are statutory barriers to accomplishing this purpose, such barriers should be identified so we can work with the Congress to change them.

Together, these initiatives can help local school districts turn failing schools into successful schools by improving teacher training, strengthening instructional practices, overhauling school management, and implementing schoolwide reforms. They can provide students who need it with extra help, during and after school hours. And they can provide students with additional choices within the public schools.

William J. Clinton

Statement on the Death of Representative Walter H. Capps

October 28, 1997

Hillary and I were shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the death of Representative Walter Capps. He was a rare soul, someone able to fuse intense spirituality with a devotion to his community and country. He brought constant values, a rare perspective, and a sense of moral grounding that public life too often lacks, and will sorely miss. I will always be grateful for his friendship and support. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Lois, his children Lisa, Todd, and Laura, who has worked with us at the White House, and their entire family.

Remarks Welcoming President Jiang Zemin of China

October 29, 1997

President Jiang, Mrs. Wang, members of the Chinese delegation, welcome to the White House, and welcome to America. Mr. President, your visit gives us both an opportunity and a responsibility. At the dawn of a new century and a new millennium, let us strengthen the bonds between us; let us pursue common causes; let us address our differences openly and with respect; let us build a better world for our children.

We admire the progress China has made in such a short time. Your reforms have lifted millions from poverty, offering better housing and better schools. The Chinese people enjoy today a better standard of living than at any time in China's history. China is playing a stronger role in the community of nations, from promoting peace in Korea and Cambodia to fighting international crime and drug trafficking. Hundreds of international organizations now benefit from Chinese participation, and we welcome tens of thousands of Chinese students to the United States every year. They come to learn, but they also teach us a lot and they teach a lot, especially, to our young people with whom they will shape the future.

Mr. President, our challenge is to build on this progress for the benefit of China, the United States, and the world. For even as we admire the Great Wall of China, we must work to ensure that fewer and fewer barriers separate us.

Both our countries can best advance our interests and our values by working together rather than standing apart. For together we

can lay the groundwork for a safer, better world, where peace prevails and prosperity grows; where we join to fight the threats that none of us can conquer alone; where all our children enjoy clean air, clean water, and a healthy future; and where people are treated with dignity, free to express their beliefs and observe their faiths.

Mr. President, Chinese immigrants who came here in the 19th century called America the "Golden Mountain." They made their dream a reality when they helped to build San Francisco into a thriving cosmopolitan city on a hill. Since then our people have climbed many mountains together. When you laid a wreath at Pearl Harbor, you paid tribute to the alliance between our people that brought victory in World War II. Now, on the verge of a new century, our two great nations must join our strength again.

As we cast our eyes over the horizon and toward the future, one thing is absolutely clear: China, with its ancient civilization and renewed economic and political vigor, will have a profound influence on the new world of the 21st century. How China defines its greatness will shape the future for all the world's children.

Mr. President, together, we can make this new era the brightest chapter in China's long and rich history, the best days America has ever known, and a new age of unprecedented peace and prosperity for all the world. That, Mr. President, is the future we hope for as we welcome you to the United States.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:18 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Jiang's wife, Madame Wang Yeping.

The President's News Conference with President Jiang

October 29, 1997

President Clinton. Mr. President, let me again say how pleased we are to welcome the leader of a great people with a remarkable civilization, history, and culture, a people now with its focus on the future. Your visit gives us the opportunity and the responsibility to build a future that is more secure, more peaceful, more prosperous for both our people.

To that end, I am pleased that we have agreed to regular summit meetings. I look forward to visiting China next year. We also have agreed to high-level dialogs between our Cabinet officials on the full range of security matters, and we will connect a Presidential hotline to make it easier for us to confer at a moment's notice.

China and the United States share a profound interest in a stable, prosperous, open Asia. We've worked well together in convincing North Korea to end its dangerous nuclear program. Today President Jiang and I agreed we will urge Pyongyang to take part in four-party peace talks with South Korea.

We also agreed to strengthen contacts between our militaries, including through a maritime agreement to decrease the chances of miscalculation and increase America's ties to a new generation of China's military leaders.

A key to Asia's stability is a peaceful and prosperous relationship between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. I reiterated America's longstanding commitment to a one China policy. It has allowed democracy to flourish in Taiwan and provides a framework in which all three relationships can prosper—between the United States and the PRC, the United States and Taiwan, and Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

I told President Jiang that we hope the People's Republic of China and Taiwan would resume a constructive cross-strait dialog and expand cross-strait exchanges. Ultimately, the relationship between the PRC and Taiwan is for the Chinese themselves to determine—peacefully.

President Jiang and I agreed that the United States and China share a strong interest in stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction and other sophisticated weaponry in unstable regions and rogue states, notably Iran. I welcome the steps China has taken and the clear assurances it has given today to help prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and related technology.

On the basis of these steps and assurances, I agreed to move ahead with the U.S.-China agreement for cooperation concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It will allow

our companies to apply for licenses to sell equipment to Chinese nuclear powerplants, subject to U.S. monitoring. This agreement is a win-win-win. It serves America's national security, environmental, and economic interests.

President Jiang and I agreed to increase the cooperation between our countries in fighting international organized crime, drug trafficking, and alien smuggling. Our law enforcement officials will share information and consult regularly. And starting next year, we will station drug enforcement administration officers in Beijing.

I'm also pleased that we will expand our cooperation on rule-of-law programs. Through them, we'll help China to train judges and lawyers, increase our exchanges of legal experts and materials, strengthen commercial law and arbitration in China, and share ideas on issues such as legal aide and administrative reform.

In both China and the United States, trade has been a critical catalyst for growth. China's the fastest growing market in the world for our goods and services. Tomorrow, Boeing will sign a contract for the largest sale of airplanes to China in history, 50 jets valued at $3 billion. This contract will support tens of thousands of American jobs and provide China with a modern fleet of passenger planes.

Still, access to China's market remains restricted for many America goods and services. Just as China can compete freely and fairly in America, so our goods and services should be able to compete freely and fairly in China. The United States will do everything possible to bring China into the World Trade Organization as soon as possible, provided China improves access to its market. China's decision today to join the information technology agreement, which cuts to zero tariffs on computers, semiconductors, and telecommunications equipment, is a strong step in the right direction.

As we pursue growth, we must also protect our shared environment. Already, pollution has made respiratory illness the leading health problem in China. Today our countries agreed to a joint initiative that will help China reduce air pollution and increase clean energy production, including through the use of American technology. The initiative builds upon the work begun by the Vice President in Beijing this spring.

I also discussed with President Jiang the special responsibility our nations bear as the top two emitters of greenhouse gases to lead in finding a global solution to the global problem of climate change. This is a broad agenda in which China and the United States share important interests that we can best advance by working together.

But we also have fundamental differences, especially concerning human rights and religious freedom. I'm convinced the best way to address them is directly and personally, as we did yesterday and today, and as we will continue to do until this issue is no longer before us, when there is full room for debate, dissent, and freedom to worship as part of the fabric of a truly free Chinese society.

Mr. President, I am very pleased that tomorrow you will visit Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, for it was there that our Founders set forth the beliefs that define and inspire our Nation to this very day. We believe all individuals, as a condition of their humanity, have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe liberty includes freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of association. We believe governments must protect those rights. These ideas grew out of the European Enlightenment, but today they are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, not as the birthright of Americans or Westerners but of people everywhere.

I welcome China's decision to invite a delegation of distinguished American religious leaders to China to pursue a dialog on religious freedom. I'm pleased we have recommitted to discuss our differences over human rights at both governmental and non-governmental levels.

Mr. President, China has known more millennia than America has known centuries. But for more than 220 years, we have been conducting our great experiment in democracy. We still struggle to make it work every day, and we know it requires struggle every day. The American people greatly admire China's extraordinary economic transformation, and we understand the importance that your own experiences and your

present challenges lead you to place upon maintaining stability. We also appreciate the fact that human rights have been advanced in China by greater freedom from want, freedom of movement in career choice, and widely held local elections. But we also believe that China will enjoy more growth and more stability as it embraces more fully the political as well as the economic aspirations of all your people.

In the information age, the true wealth of nations lies in people's ability to create, to communicate, to innovate. Fully developing these resources requires people who feel free to speak, to publish, to associate, to worship without fear of reprisal. It is China's extraordinary human resources that will lift it to its rightful destiny of leadership and widely held prosperity in the 21st century.

As we look ahead, the United States welcomes China's emergence as a full and constructive partner in the community of nations, a great nation that joins its strength and influence to our own to advance peace and prosperity, freedom, and security.

Mr. President, thank you for coming to the United States. We look forward to building on the good work of this day so that the best days for all our people are yet to come.

President Jiang. Ladies and gentlemen, a while ago I had an in-depth exchange of views with President Clinton on China-U.S. relations and on international and regional issues of mutual interest. The meeting was constructive and fruitful.

President Clinton and I have agreed on identifying the goal for the development of a China-U.S. relationship oriented toward the 21st century. The two sides believe that efforts to realize this goal will promote the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the noble cause of world peace and development.

We both agree that our two countries share extensive common interests in important matters bearing on the survival and development of mankind, such as peace and development, economic cooperation and trade, the prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and environment protection.

Both sides are of the view that it is imperative to handle China-U.S. relations and properly address our differences in accordance with the principles of mutual respect, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, equality, and mutual benefit, and seeking common ground while putting aside differences.

President Clinton and I have also reached broad agreement on the establishment of a mechanism of regular summit meetings, the opening of a hotline between the two heads of state, the establishment of a mechanism of meetings and consultations between the two foreign ministers and other officials, an increase in exchanges between the armed forces of the two countries, and exchanges and cooperation between our two countries in economic, scientific, and technological, cultural, educational, and law enforcement fields.

My visit will achieve the purpose of enhancing mutual understanding, broadening common ground, developing cooperation, and building a future together, and bring China-U.S. relations into a new stage of development.

President Clinton and I share the view that China and the United States enjoy a high degree of complementarity and a huge potential for cooperation in the economic and trade feuds. To step up our economic cooperation and trade not only benefits our two peoples but also contributes to economic development and prosperity of the world.

And I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. President, for the kind reception accorded to me.

Now, questions are welcome.

President Clinton. Let a Chinese go first. We'll wait.

President Jiang's Visit

Q. I have a question which I would like to ask of President Jiang. President Jiang, for the past few years, you have reiterated once and again that we need to take a long-term perspective and we should view China-U.S. relations from the perspective of the 21st century. Therefore, Mr. President, what measures will the Chinese Government make, and how can a sound and stable relationship between China and the United States be brought into the 21st century?

President Jiang. And your question recalled of me of the first meeting that President Clinton and I had in Seattle when we agreed that we need to work to bring a world of prosperity, stability, and peace into the 21st century. The meeting that I had with President Clinton during my current trip to the United States was the fifth one that we had with one another. However, my visit is the first by a Chinese head of state to the United States in 12 years.

And this shows that both sides are working together and taking many specific measures to achieve this goal, and to put it more specifically, I believe it is very important for the two peoples of China and the United States to enhance mutual understanding. And I'm also coming here to the United States for the purpose of deepening mutual understanding between our two peoples.

There are a lot of works from ancient Chinese literature and culture describing the view that one should scale a great height in order to have a grander sight. And the development of modern science and technology also told us that if you have a greater height you can see farther into the long distance.

I do not want to take much of the time, so I would like to leave more time to President Clinton. [*Laughter*]

Human Rights

The President. Go ahead Laurie [Laurie Santos, United Press International].

Q. Sir, we're told that you have asked, even last night, for the release of some political dissidents, and the Chinese have not done so. Is it acceptable for China to refuse even such a modest gesture?

President Clinton. Well, first of all, we had a long discussion about human rights; we discussed a lot of issues related to human rights, every conceivable aspect of it. And we have profound disagreements there. But that does not mean that this visit should not have occurred or that we don't have a big interest in continuing to work together. After all, this interest that we have in working with China relates to the fact that we have common values and common interest related to preserving peace, to growing the economy, to stopping the spread of dangerous weapons. We have an agreement to fight narco-trafficking. We have an agreement to work together on the terrific environmental challenges we face—right across the board. So I think that you have to see this meeting in the context of that. But you shouldn't in any way minimize the steep differences that still remain between us over that issue.

Taiwan

Q. I have a question for Your Excellency, President Jiang Zemin. Why is the Taiwan issue the core issue in China-U.S. relations?

President Jiang. The three Sino-U.S. joint communiques all covered the question of Taiwan, because this question is involving the sovereignty of the People's Republic of China. The late Mr. Deng Ziaoping proposed the system of one country-two systems for the settlement of the Taiwan question and for the accomplishment of peaceful reunification of China, and this is the only correct policy.

However, we also say that we do not commit to renounce the use of force, that this is not directed at the compatriots in Taiwan but rather at the external forces attempting to interfere in China's internal affairs and at those who are attempting to achieve separation of the country or the independence of Taiwan.

I'm very happy that I discussed this issue in clear-cut terms with President Clinton during my current trip as we have done in our previous meetings, and I believe the joint statement that the two sides are going to release will also carry explicit explanations on the Taiwan issue.

Thank you.

The President. Terry [Terence Hunt, Associated Press].

Tiananmen Square

Q. Mr. President—a question, actually, for both Presidents—the shootings in Tiananmen Square were a turning point in U.S.-Chinese relations and cause many Americans to view China as an oppressive country that crushes human rights. President Jiang, do you have any regrets about Tiananmen? And President Clinton, are you prepared to lift any of the Tiananmen sanctions, and if not, why not?

President Jiang. The political disturbance that occurred at the turn of spring and summer in 1989 seriously disrupted social stability and jeopardized state security. Therefore, the Chinese Government had to take necessary measures, according to law, to quickly resolve the matter to ensure that our country enjoys stability and that our reform and opening up proceeds smoothly.

The Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government have long drawn the correct conclusion on this political disturbance, and facts have also proved that if a country with an over 1.2 billion population does not enjoy social and political stability, it cannot possibly have the situation of reform and opening up that we are having today.

Thank you.

President Clinton. To answer your question, first, on the general point, I think it should be obvious to everyone that we have a very different view of the meaning of events at Tiananmen Square. I believe that what happened and the aftermath and the continuing reluctance to tolerate political dissent has kept China from politically developing the level of support in the rest of the world that otherwise would have been developed. I also believe, as I said in my opening statement, that over the long run, the societies of the 21st century that will do best will be those that are drawing their stability from their differences, that out of this whole harmony of different views, there is a coherence of loyalty to the nation because everyone has their say. It enables people to accept, for example, the results of the elections that they don't agree with. So we have a different view.

The depth of the view in the United States, I think, is nowhere better exemplified than in the so-called Tiananmen sanctions. We are the only nation in the world, as far as I know, that still has sanctions on the books as a result of the events of 8 years ago.

Now, you asked a specific question. Our agreement on the nuclear proliferation issues allows me to lift the sanction on peaceful nuclear cooperation. It is the right thing to do for America. This is a good agreement. It furthers our national security interests. China is to be complimented for participating in it, and the decision is the right one.

The other sanctions which cover a range of issues from OPIC loans to crime control equipment and many things in-between under our law have to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. So as a result of our meeting today, the only Tiananmen Square sanction which is being lifted is the one on peaceful nuclear cooperation, and it is a good thing for America and China. And I applaud the Chinese side for the work they have done with us on this specific nuclear issue. It is a substantial step forward for us.

President Jiang. I would like to speak a few words in addition to this question. Our two countries have different geographical locations, and we are also thousands of miles apart geographically. We also have different historic and cultural tradition, different levels of economic development, and different values. Therefore, I believe it is just natural for our two countries to hold different views on some issues.

Now, people in the world are standing at the turn of the century when we're going to bring in the 21st century, and science and technology have developed significantly as compared with, for instance, the period when Newton lived. And I also believe that the world we are living in is a rich and diverse one, and therefore, the concepts on democracy and human rights and on freedoms are relative and specific ones, and they are to be determined by the specific national situation of different countries.

And I am also strongly of the view that on such issues as the human rights issue, discussions can be held on the basis of noninterference in the internal affairs of a country. And it goes without saying that as for the general rules universally abided by in the world, China also abides these rules.

My stay here in the United States is rather a brief one. There is the fact that since I came here I have been immersed in the atmosphere of friendship from the American people, and I was also accorded a warm reception from President Clinton and Vice President Gore. However, sometimes noises came into my ears.

According to Chinese philosophy, Confucius say, "Isn't it a pleasure to have friends coming from afar." And naturally, I am also aware that in the United States different

views can be expressed, and this is a reflection of democracy. And therefore, I would like to quote a Chinese saying, which goes, ''Seeing it once is better than hearing about it a hundred times.'' I've also got my real understanding about this during my current trip. However, I don't believe this will have any negative impact on our effort to approach each other.

President Clinton. Let me—I just have to say one other thing. [*Laughter*] First of all, the United States recognizes that on so many issues China is on the right side of history, and we welcome it. But on this issue we believe the policy of the Government is on the wrong side of history. There is, after all, now a Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The second point I'd like to make is that I can only speak from our experience. And America has problems of its own, which I have frankly acknowledged. But in our country I think it would amaze many of our Chinese guests to see some of the things that have been written and said about me, my family, our Government, our policies. And yet, after all this time, I'm still standing here, and our country is stronger than it was before those words were uttered 6 years ago. [*Laughter*] Excuse me, before those words began to be said 6 years ago—they're still being said every day. [*Laughter*]

Taiwan

Q. Mr. President, I have a question for both President Jiang and President Clinton. President Clinton, you stated your position with regard to Taiwan that this is a question for the Chinese people to resolve. But we all understand you have brokered peace in Bosnia, in the Middle East. Do you see any role for the United States to play in the securing of a permanent peaceful environment in the Taiwan Strait?

And for President Jiang, about the cross-strait dialog. President Clinton said that he has urged President Jiang to resume the interrupted dialog. I wonder if President Jiang will respond positively and take some measures to resume the dialog as soon as possible.

President Clinton. First of all, I think the most important thing the United States can do to facilitate a peaceful resolution of the differences is to adhere strictly to the one China policy we have agreed on, to make it clear that within the context of that one China policy, as articulated in the communiques and our own laws, we will maintain friendly, open relations with the people of Taiwan and China but that we understand that this issue has to be resolved and resolved peacefully and that if it is resolved in a satisfactory way, consistent with statements made in the past, then Asia will be stronger and more stable and more prosperous. That is good for the United States. And our own relations with China will move on to another stage of success.

I think the more we can encourage that, the better off we are. But I think in the end, since so much investment and contact has gone on in the last few years between Taiwan and China, I think the Chinese people know how to resolve this when the time is right, and we just have to keep saying we hope the time will be right as soon as possible. Sooner is better than later.

President Jiang. To answer your question in rather brief terms, all in all, our policy is one of peaceful reunification and one country-two systems. And as for more detailed elaboration on that—a few years ago I made my eight-point proposal along that line, and at the just concluded 15th national congress of the Chinese Communist Party, I also delivered a report which gave a rather comprehensive elaboration on this. Therefore, I will not repeat them here.

President Clinton. I, too, will try to be briefer.

Larry, [Larry McQuillan, Reuters] go ahead.

Nuclear Cooperation

Q. Mr. President, could you elaborate a little bit more on your decision to approve these reactor—or to permit reactor sales? It's certainly something that has raised concerns by some Members of Congress. And also, could you describe just what kind of commitments you've received from China? Are they actually written?

President Clinton. Well, let me say, first of all, I am completely convinced that the agreements we have reached are sufficiently specific and clear that the requirements of

the law will be met and that the national security of the United States will be advanced and that we will have greater success in our global efforts to keep nuclear technology and other dangerous weapons from falling into the wrong hands as a result of the agreement we have made with China.

Issues of Mutual Interest

Q. President Jiang, among the common ground you reached with President Clinton, what is the most important one?

President Jiang. I believe very importantly that I and President Clinton held full exchange of views on issues of mutual interest to us, and we also reached common ground on the major areas of our discussion. And I believe the most important thing is that both sides have expressed the desire to work in order to bring a world of peace, stability, and prosperity into the next century. I believe this is the most important common ground we have.

President Clinton. John [Jonathan Peterson, Los Angeles Times].

U.S. Troops in Asia

Q. Mr. President, the United States and China are inevitably big powers in the Pacific. Are you comfortable with the size of America's military presence in Asia? And I'd also like to ask President Jiang if he would view a reduction of American troops in the region as a step towards improving relations.

President Clinton. The question you ask of me, the answer is simple. It's yes. I believe that our presence in the Pacific, where everyone knows we have no territorial or other destructive ambitions, is a stabilizing factor, and it will lead us to greater partnerships in meeting common security threats in the years ahead.

President Jiang. Hong Kong correspondent, please.

China, Russia, and the United States

Q. I have a question for both Presidents. Yesterday, Beijing announced its invitation for Russian President Boris Yeltsin to visit Beijing, and today the heads of state of China and the United States have announced here in the United States to establish a constructive and strategic partnership between China and the United States. Therefore, I would like to have your comment—the two Presidents—your perception concerning the triangular relationship between China, the United States, and Russia.

President Jiang. I don't see much contradiction in this aspect, for I am coming here to the United States, this time at the invitation of President Clinton for what is our fifth meeting with one another, and therefore, we are already old friends. And so am I with President Yeltsin of Russia. And I still remember that in the spring of 1995, the three of us met in Moscow. Therefore, I don't see much contradiction in this regard. And we should all commit ourselves to building a peaceful and beautiful new century.

President Clinton. During the cold war we were all three suspicious of each other, and we tried to play each other off against the other. [*Laughter*] So when Russia argued with China, we were very happy. [*Laughter*]

Today, we must look to the future. Russia has a strong democracy. Its economy is coming back. We are working with Russia in Bosnia and in other places around the world. In land mass, it is the largest country in the world. It is a rich country. It is a European country and an Asian country. And both China and the United States should have good relations with Russia. And then the three of us should work together on matters of common concern. This is not the cold war; we need to be looking to the future and a different set of relations.

The President. Wolf [Wolf Blitzer, CNN].

Human Rights

Q. Mr. President and Mr. President, I wonder if you specifically had a chance to raise the cases of the two leading political dissidents in China, Wang Dan and Wei Jingsheng, with President Jiang and ask for their release. And to President Jiang, why not simply release these political prisoners? And also, why not allow greater religious freedom in Tibet, which has become such an emotional issue here in the United States as well?

Thank you.

President Clinton. First, as Mr. Berger, I think, has already told you, my answer to that question is, I discussed every aspect of this issue in great detail.

President Jiang. To be frank with you, President Clinton discussed all these relevant issues with me. I just want to state here that I am the President of the People's Republic of China and not the chief judge of the Supreme Court of China. And as for the issues such as the one concerning Wei Jingsheng, this involves China's criminal law and will be resolved gradually according to the legal procedure by the court of China.

As for the issue concerning religion in Tibet, in China people have the freedom to exercise their different religious beliefs. However, on this question, I believe religious freedom in Tibet and the violation of criminal law are issues within different framework. And, therefore, I hope that mutual understanding between us will be promoted.

China-U.S. Relations

Q. My question is for President Clinton. In China, sometimes we are confused by American different policy to China. We know when you—there are factions in Congress which aren't friendly to China. So as President, how do you coordinate the unbalance to have a unified policy to China? Is there any elements to damage an effective Sino-U.S. relationship?

President Clinton. Well, let me say—make a general point first. It is very important that we understand each other so that if we have a difference, it's a real difference and not a misunderstanding. Therefore, in dealing with the United States, unless there is some clear signal to the contrary, you should assume that a statement by the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, the National Security Adviser, the Trade Ambassador, the people in our direct line of authority—they represent our policy.

We need the support of the important people in Congress, and much of the leadership does support this administration's China policy. But I think it would be a mistake to think that the United States has no unified China policy because individuals or groups in the Congress disagree with it. We do have a lot of disagreement. We have had for 8 years now, ever since 1989. Until we resolve all these issues, in that sense, our relations will never be fully normal. But we have to keep pushing forward.

Karen [Karen Breslau, Newsweek].

We have one last—yes, this is the last one so the Americas and the Chinese will be even. [*Laughter*]

Tibet

Q. For President Jiang, sir, officials in your delegation have suggested that the protesters who have protested Chinese policies in Tibet are, in many cases, young people, students who have been misguided, misinformed by a Hollywood-led campaign. Sir, if that is so, and if we take to heart your old Chinese saying that seeing once is worth hearing a hundred times, would you be willing to invite either a delegation, a senior delegation from the United States Congress or a group of international journalists to travel to Tibet and to see for themselves?

Thank you.

President Jiang. I do, indeed, would like to welcome more people to go to Tibet and see with their own eyes.

President Clinton. Let me just, following up on that, make it clear again that the United States has no political objective in pressing the cause of Tibetans, the Tibetan Buddhists, the Dalai Lama. We have only asked for the resumption of a constructive dialog based on a commitment that there would be no attempt to sever Tibet from China but instead an attempt to reconcile the peoples so that all freedom of religious expression and unique cultures could be preserved.

Thank you very much.

President Jiang. Thank you.

NOTE: The President's 152d news conference began at 3:30 p.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. President Jiang spoke in Chinese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Joint United States-China Statement

October 29, 1997

At the invitation of President William J. Clinton of the United States of America, President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China is paying a state visit to the United States from October 26 to November

3, 1997. This is the first state visit by the President of China to the United States in twelve years. President Jiang Zemin held formal talks with President Clinton in Washington D.C. and also met with Vice President Al Gore, Congressional leaders and other American leaders. Talks also were held between Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

The two Presidents had an in-depth and productive exchange of views on the international situation, U.S.-China relations and the important opportunities and challenges facing the two countries. They agree that a sound and stable relationship between the United States and China serves the fundamental interests of both the American and Chinese peoples and is important to fulfilling their common responsibility to work for peace and prosperity in the 21st century.

They agree that while the United States and China have areas of both agreement and disagreement, they have a significant common interest and a firm common will to seize opportunities and meet challenges cooperatively, with candor and a determination to achieve concrete progress. The United States and China have major differences on the question of human rights. At the same time, they also have great potential for cooperation in maintaining global and regional peace and stability; promoting world economic growth; preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; advancing Asia-Pacific regional cooperation; combating narcotics trafficking, international organized crime and terrorism; strengthening bilateral exchanges and cooperation in economic development, trade, law, environmental protection, energy, science and technology, and education and culture; as well as engaging in military exchanges.

The two Presidents are determined to build toward a constructive strategic partnership between the United States and China through increasing cooperation to meet international challenges and promote peace and development in the world. To achieve this goal, they agree to approach U.S.-China relations from a long-term perspective on the basis of the principles of the three U.S.-China joint communiques.

China stresses that the Taiwan question is the most important and sensitive central question in China-U.S. relations, and that the proper handling of this question in strict compliance with the principles set forth in the three China-U.S. joint communiqués holds the key to sound and stable growth of China-U.S. relations. The United States reiterates that it adheres to its ''one China'' policy and the principles set forth in the three U.S.-China joint communiqués.

As permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, the United States and China support the UN in its efforts, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, to play a positive and effective role on global issues, including peacekeeping and the promotion of economic and social development. Both countries support efforts to reform the UN and to make the Security Council more representative, while retaining and improving its effectiveness. Stressing the need to put the UN on a firmer financial basis, both countries will participate actively in discussions on the Scale of Assessments in the UN.

As two major countries in the Asia-Pacific region, the United States and China are ready to strengthen their cooperation to meet various challenges and make positive contributions to promoting stability and prosperity in the region. Recognizing that maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula is of great importance, the two countries are working through the Four-Party Talks to help establish a durable peace on the Peninsula, and will continue consultations to this end. They also stress that it is in the interest of the two countries to maintain peace and stability in other important regions, including the Middle East, the Gulf, and South Asia.

The two Presidents agreed on a number of steps that will provide a framework for further promoting U.S.-China relations and strengthening their cooperation in international affairs.

High-Level Dialogue and Consultations

The United States and China agree to regular visits by their Presidents to each other's capitals.

They agree to a Washington-Beijing presidential communications link to facilitate direct contact. They also agree to regular exchanges of visits by cabinet and sub-cabinet officials to consult on political, military, security and arms control issues.

Energy and Environment Cooperation

The United States and China reaffirm the importance of bilateral cooperation across the broad range of environmental issues, as evidenced by the establishment of the U.S.-China Forum on Environment and Development in March 1997.

They consider it a critical challenge to develop and efficiently use energy sources, protect the global environment, and promote environmentally sound growth and development. Accordingly, they agree to strengthen their cooperation in energy and environment through an initiative to accelerate clean energy projects and the appropriate transfer of related technologies. The principal areas of cooperation will be in clean energy, urban air pollution control and rural electrification. This initiative also will foster broader cooperation on global environment issues such as climate change, desertification and bio-diversity. China's State Planning Commission and the U.S. Energy Department have signed the U.S.-China Initiative on Energy and Environment Cooperation to promote effective cooperation in these fields, including the use of clean energy.

Economic Relations and Trade

The two Presidents are prepared to take positive and effective measures to expand U.S.-China trade and economic ties. As both economies move into the 21st century, information technology will be critical to spurring technological innovation and improving productivity. In this regard, China indicated its intention to participate as soon as possible in the Information Technology Agreement. In addition, in the context of WTO negotiations, China will continue to make further substantial tariff reductions.

The United States and China agree that China's full participation in the multilateral trading system is in their mutual interest. To this end, they agree to intensify negotiations on market access, including tariffs, non-tariff measures, services, standards and agriculture and on implementation of WTO principles so that China can accede to the WTO on a commercially meaningful basis at the earliest possible date.

Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation

The United States and China agree that it is in their mutual interest to cooperate in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. To this end, they each have taken the steps necessary to implement the U.S.-China Agreement on Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation concluded in 1985. In addition, China's State Planning Commission and the U.S. Department of Energy have signed an Agreement of Intent to promote peaceful nuclear cooperation and research between the two countries.

Nonproliferation

The United States and China agree to work to bring the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty into force at the earliest possible date. They also agree to pursue at the UN Conference on Disarmament the early start of formal negotiations on the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Production of Fissile Materials Used in Nuclear Weapons and Other Nuclear Explosive Devices.

The United States and China reiterate their commitment not to provide any assistance to unsafeguarded nuclear facilities and nuclear explosion programs. China has placed controls on exports of nuclear and dual-use materials and related technology and will take further measures to strengthen dual-use export controls by mid-1998. The United States will continue to enforce firm controls on the export of nuclear and dual-use materials and related technology.

As original parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, the United States and China agree to cooperate in implementing the Convention within a multilateral framework. Both countries agree on the importance of government oversight of chemical-related exports.

The United States and China agree to build on the 1994 Joint Statement on Missile Nonproliferation. They reaffirm their respective commitments to the guidelines and parameters of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

Human Rights

The United States and China both recognize the positive role of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other international human rights instruments in promoting human rights. They reiterate their commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

While the two countries have not resolved their differences on human rights, they have agreed to discuss them through dialogue at both governmental and non-governmental levels in the spirit of equality and mutual respect. The two countries agree to hold discussions on the structure and functions of an NGO forum on human rights.

Cooperation in the Field of Law

The United States and China agree that promoting cooperation in the field of law serves the interests and needs of both countries. They will strengthen cooperation in combating international organized crime, narcotics trafficking, alien smuggling, counterfeiting and money laundering. To this end, they intend to establish a joint liaison group for law enforcement cooperation composed of representatives of the relevant agencies of both governments. They agree to begin consultations on mutual legal assistance aimed at concluding a mutual legal assistance agreement.

The United States and China will assign counternarcotics officers to their respective embassies on a reciprocal basis. Recognizing the importance the United States and China each attaches to legal exchanges, they intend to establish a joint liaison group to pursue cooperative activities in this area. These may include exchanges of legal experts; training of judges and lawyers; strengthening legal information systems and the exchange of legal materials; sharing ideas about legal assistance; consulting on administrative procedures; and strengthening commercial law and arbitration.

As part of this program of legal cooperation, China's Minister of Justice will visit the United States in November 1997 at the invitation of the U.S. Attorney General.

Military-to-Military Relations

The United States and China have reached agreement on the establishment of a consultation mechanism to strengthen military maritime safety, which will enable their maritime and air forces to avoid accidents, misunderstandings or miscalculations.

They agree to share information and discuss issues related to their respective experiences in the areas of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Science and Technology, Educational and Cultural Exchanges

The U.S.-China Joint Commission on Science and Technology will continue to guide the active bilateral scientific and technological cooperation program, which involves more than 30 agreements reached since 1979, and will promote the further use of science and technology to solve national and global problems. The United States and China also will identify areas for cooperative projects using space for Earth science research and practical applications.

The United States and China will expand educational and cultural exchanges. Both Presidents believe that increased people-to-people exchanges will help cultivate long-term bilateral relations.

President Jiang Zemin expressed his thanks to President Clinton and the American people for their warm reception and invited President Clinton to visit China in 1998. President Clinton accepted this invitation with pleasure.

NOTE: The joint statement was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release.

Statement on the Death of John N. Sturdivant

October 29, 1997

Hillary and I were deeply saddened today to learn of the death of American Federation of Government Employees National President John N. Sturdivant.

For more than 30 years, John played a vital role in the success of the American trade union movement. A born organizer, his determination, leadership, and commitment

were central ingredients to the growth of AFGE, the largest Government employee union.

A champion of labor-management partnerships, he played an important and highly visible role in our initiative to reinvent Government. He was a true hero of the reinvention process, and his efforts contributed in a great measure to a Government that really works for all citizens.

I saw his commitment to Federal employees first-hand when we worked together during the Oklahoma City tragedy. He was a man who considered every Government worker—AFGE member or not—his sister or brother. His vision and creative leadership in improving the safety and security for all Federal employees at work will be just one of his legacies.

But another legacy will be his tenacity and strength—which he clearly demonstrated during the Government shutdowns in 1995. These events were truly defining moments for John and his union. His leadership was an inspiration to all of us, and I was very proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with him in this fight.

Today our thoughts will be with his daughter, Michelle, his family, and the men and women he served with such distinction.

Executive Order 13066—Amendment to Executive Order 13037, Commission To Study Capital Budgeting

October 29, 1997

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to increase the membership of the Commission to Study Capital Budgeting, it is hereby ordered that the second sentence of section 1 of Executive Order 13037 is amended by deleting "11" and inserting "no more than 20" in lieu thereof. It is further ordered that section 3 of Executive Order 13037 is amended by deleting the words "by March 15, 1998, or".

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 29, 1997.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:55 a.m., October 30, 1997]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on October 31.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Aeronautics and Space Activities

October 29, 1997

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit this report on the Nation's achievements in aeronautics and space during fiscal year (FY) 1996, as required under section 206 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2476). Aeronautics and space activities in FY 1996 involved 14 contributing departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

A wide variety of aeronautics and space developments took place during FY 1996. The Administration issued an integrated National Space Policy, consolidating a number of previous policy directives into a singular, coherent vision of the future for the civil, commercial, and national security space sectors. The Administration also issued a formal policy on the future management and use of the U.S. Global Positioning System.

During FY 1996, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully completed eight Space Shuttle flights. NASA also launched 7 expendable launch vehicles, while the Department of Defense launched 9 and the commercial sector launched 13. In the reusable launch vehicle program, Vice President Gore announced NASA's selection of a private sector partner to design, fabricate, and flight test the X–33 vehicle.

Scientists made some dramatic new discoveries in various space-related fields such as space science, Earth science and remote sensing, and life and microgravity science. Most notably, NASA researchers cooperating with the National Science Foundation found possible evidence of ancient microbial life in a meteorite believed to be from Mars.

In aeronautics, activities included the development of technologies to improve performance, increase safety, reduce engine

noise, and assist U.S. industry to be more competitive in the world market. Air traffic control activities focused on various automation systems to increase flight safety and enhance the efficient use of air space.

Close international cooperation with Russia occurred in the Shuttle-Mir docking missions and with Canada, Europe, Japan, and Russia in the International Space Station program. The United States also entered into new cooperative agreements with Japan and new partners in South America and Asia.

In conclusion, FY 1996 was a very active and successful year for U.S. aeronautics and space programs. Efforts in these areas have contributed significantly to the Nation's scientific and technical knowledge, international cooperation, environmental health, and economic competitiveness.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 29, 1997.

Remarks at a State Dinner Honoring President Jiang

October 29, 1997

Good evening. President Jiang, Mrs. Wang, members of the Chinese delegation, Ambassador and Mrs. Sasser, distinguished guests, friends all, Hillary and I welcome you to America's house.

Mr. President, in your lifetime you have witnessed the sweep of a remarkable century, both in China and abroad. And in your different occupations, you have lived a rich sampling of the human enterprise. While you lead China toward the future, we know you also are a student of the past, with an interest in our history, from Thomas Jefferson to Mark Twain. Not many heads of state can recite the Gettysbury Address, Mr. Lincoln's powerful hymn to the sanctity of our Union and our guarantee of freedom.

China has played an important role in our history. In 1784, shortly after America's independence, the first American merchant ship landed in China. The Chinese officials knew we were not European, so they simply called us the ''new people.'' And though we were unfamiliar, the Chinese allowed us to trade freely with them. So one of the oldest societies on Earth, China, extended the hand of friendship to the world's youngest nation.

The two centuries since then are a tiny fraction of recorded Chinese history. Long before the United States was even born, China was a stronghold of creativity, knowledge, and wealth. From the printing China invented to the poetry it produced, from medicine and mathematics to the magnetic compass and humanistic philosophies, many of China's earliest gifts still enrich our lives today.

Now, the Chinese people are dramatically building on this legacy. Economic reform over the past 20 years has transformed China's landscape and its people's daily lives, lifting millions from poverty, giving more people education, shelter, choice of work, and a chance to provide for their children, bringing the Chinese people closer to the rest of the world and into a greater leadership role in the community of nations.

Now, on the verge of the new century, both our nations seek to continue this progress, to contribute to China's growing prosperity, to encourage its democratic development, to support its emergence as a responsible global power and partner.

Surely a new world is dawning on the other side of the millennium. From Shanghai to San Francisco, a community is emerging that can become ''Pacific'' in every sense of the word. Communication and commerce cross even the world's widest ocean in only a matter of seconds, making all of us neighbors.

Let us make the most of these new realities. Our commercial and cultural relationship is strong and growing stronger. Our people travel back and fourth, teaching and learning from each other. Mr. President, we Americans are proud that your son received a part of his education at one of our universities, and we want more of our young people to study in China. We want to work even more closely to promote peace, to fight drugs and organized crime, to build prosperity, to protect our environment for future generations.

We must press ahead on these fronts and more. I hope some day, Mr. President, the children of both our nations will say of us that our decision gave new meaning in our time to President Lincoln's call for a new

birth of freedom. The United States has benefited already beyond measure from the contributions of Chinese-Americans, whose unique culture and values of family, education, and hard work have strengthened the fabric of our society. Already, China has enriched America's history. Now, Mr. President, let us work together with confidence to enhance our common destiny.

The ancient text, the "I Ching," in English is called "The Book of Changes." It tells us leaders plan in the beginning when they do things; leaders consider problems and prevent them. With this summit we have considered problems, taken steps to prevent some of them, and we have begun to plan together for a future not of problems but of progress for America, for China, for the world.

It is in that spirit that I ask you to join me in a toast to the people and the President of the People's Republic of China.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to James M. Sasser, U.S. Ambassador to China, and his wife, Mary.

Remarks on Unveiling the Starbright World On-Line Computer Network

October 30, 1997

The President. Now, as you can hear, I'm a little hoarse, but I do want to say that was brilliant. [*Laughter*] If you can shift the heat like that, you should go to Congress. I want to thank Ricky and Mikey and Lauren and Vanessa, thank my good friend Steven Spielberg. Thank you, General Schwarzkopf, for your outstanding leadership. You've got a very important battle here on your hands, and I'm sure you're going to win it.

I'd also like to thank Congressman Lou Stokes and Congresswoman Pat Danner for being here. I thought I'd take and make a little fun of the Congress so they'll go back and tell it, and I'll be in trouble again this afternoon. [*Laughter*] I'd like to thank Ned Zechman and all the people from the Children's National Medical Center here.

As you can hear, I'm a little hoarse. The Chinese state visit and the change in the weather have taken a little of my voice away, so I've asked the Vice President to come with me and give the speech. And I'm going to introduce him in a minute, but let me just say I cannot tell you how important I think what Starbright is doing is. General Schwarzkopf and Steven Spielberg have already talked about it.

What we're trying to do in the Government is to hook up every classroom and library to the Internet by year 2000. But we also want to make sure all the children's hospitals are there. These children deserve them. And we need for them to be a part of this emerging network of learning and playing and growing. And as the General said, it looks like it's a healthy thing to do as well. So we're glad to be here. Mostly we're here just to say thank you to the foundation, to all of you, and to say we want to do our part.

I think it's appropriate that the Vice President is here to speak instead of me because he was talking about the information superhighway before I had even gotten an electric typewriter.

The Vice President.

[*At this point, Vice President Al Gore made brief remarks. The President then took questions from children using the network.*]

Q. We would like to ask you some questions. [*Laughter*]

The President. Okay.

Q. What kind of food do you like to eat?

The President. What kind of food?

Q. Yes.

The President. I like fruit. [*Laughter*] I like granola. [*Laughter*] I like chicken—[*laughter*]—and I like all kinds of vegetables. And it would be easier for me to tell you what kind of food I don't like to eat. [*Laughter*] It would be a shorter list. [*Laughter*] Peaches are my favorite thing.

Q. Mr. President, as you were younger, were your dreams ever to be a President, always?

The President. No, not always. First I wanted to be a musician, then I wanted to be a doctor, then I actually wanted to be a journalist once. [*Laughter*] But I was always interested in politics when I was younger, and I thought I might like to go into it. And I was very fortunate, so I got to be President. But I thought about it, but it wasn't like my

lifetime ambition from the time I was 10 years old.

Q. Did you always want to be Vice President? [*Laughter*]

The Vice President. Yes. You know, to children all around this country—I've always wanted to be Vice President. [*Laughter*]

The President. It's not a bad job. [*Laughter*]

General Norman Schwarzkopf. We're really getting into some very dangerous ground here, so I think we better—[*laughter*]—better terminate this thing. Let me just say——

Q. Mr. President——

General Schwarzkopf. ——you've just seen the power of Starbright——

Q. Mr. President—[*laughter*]——

The Vice President. We always have trouble ending press conferences. [*Laughter*]

The President. Yes, I know.

General Schwarzkopf. But you've just seen the power of this system——

Q. What's your favorite sport to watch or play?

General Schwarzkopf. We'll take one more from Fort Worth.

The President. What's my favorite sport?

Q. Okay, what's your favorite sport you like to watch or play?

The President. My favorite sport to watch is probably basketball. My favorite sport to play is golf. I'm too slow to play basketball very well. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:37 p.m. at the Children's Hospital National Medical Center. In his remarks, he referred to Ricky Adams, Mikey Butler, Lauren Alexanderson, and Vanessa Gonzalez, Starbright Pioneer Children; motion picture director Steven Spielberg, chairman, and Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, USA (Ret.), capital campaign chairman, STARBRIGHT Foundation; and Edwin K. Zechman, Jr., president and chief executive officer, Children's National Medical Center. The Starbright World on-line computer network enables seriously ill children to meet, play, and communicate with one another. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Signing Legislation Conferring Honorary Veteran Status on Bob Hope

October 30, 1997

Today I signed into law H.J. Res. 75, which confers upon Bob Hope the status of honorary veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces and extends to him the gratitude of the American people for his lifetime of accomplishments and service on behalf of our men and women in uniform.

Bob Hope is a great American whose life has defined patriotism and service. In times of war and peace, good times and bad, he entertained our troops and brought to them a familiar and comforting sense of home while they defended our nation's interests around the world. Bob Hope richly deserves this unique honor, and I am proud to be able to sign this measure into law.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 75, approved October 30, was assigned Public Law No. 105–67.

Statement on Campaign Finance Reform

October 30, 1997

I am very pleased that the Senate has agreed to schedule a vote on campaign finance reform. This will pave the way for the first up-or-down vote ever on the McCain-Feingold bill. At long last, we have an opportunity to give the American people the kind of elections they deserve. I want to commend the entire Democratic caucus and a few brave Republicans, whose steadfastness has now produced the first real opportunity to enact campaign finance reform.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Fast-Track Trade Legislation

October 30, 1997

I applaud Speaker Gingrich for scheduling a vote in the House of Representatives for next Friday, November 7, on the renewal of traditional trade negotiating authority. I am

grateful for his commitment to move forward and work to secure passage of this legislation that is vital to our national interest.

Renewal of traditional trade negotiating authority, which every President has had since 1974, will allow me to negotiate strong trade agreements that break down foreign barriers to our goods and services and directly benefit American workers and American companies. This authority represents a partnership between the President and the Congress in support of both American jobs and American leadership in the world today. I look forward to continuing to work closely with Speaker Gingrich and others in both the House and Senate on a bipartisan basis to secure enactment of this legislation this year.

Proclamation 7046—National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week, 1997

October 30, 1997

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As we approach this century's end, many of the blocs and barriers that divided the world for 50 years largely have fallen away. All around the world, with America's help, nations are moving from conflict to cooperation. However, we still face challenges that have taken on new and dangerous dimensions: ethnic and religious violence, aggression by outlaw states, the illegal drug trade, and threats from international terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. The National Guard and Reserve play a vital role in the response of America's Armed Forces to this broad spectrum of challenges to our national security, and they are an indispensable part of the effort to promote peace and democratic values.

While most Americans understand and deeply appreciate the strategic and military value of our National Guard and Reserve forces, too often we fail to recognize or acknowledge the important contributions of their civilian employers. When called upon to share their greatest resource—employees serving as citizen-soldiers—these employers subordinate their own interests for the good of our country, even when they may incur financial hardship and organizational disruption. It is only because of the willingness by employers to place our Nation's well-being above their own that our National Guard and Reserve are able to provide mission-ready and accessible forces to help preserve our freedom and protect our national interests.

The generosity of these employers is key to enabling Reserve components to play an ever greater and more diverse role in our country's Armed Forces. By setting aside this special time to honor the sacrifice of our Nation's employers, we express our heartfelt appreciation to these patriots for employing our citizen-soldiers, making it possible for them to serve, and helping to keep America strong, secure, and free.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2 through November 8, 1997, as National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week. I encourage all Americans to join me in expressing our heartfelt thanks to the civilian employers of the members of our National Guard and Reserve for their extraordinary sacrifices on behalf of our Nation. I also call upon State and local officials, private organizations, businesses, and all military commanders to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 3, 1997]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 4.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Brazil-United States Agreement on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and Documentation

October 30, 1997

To the Congress of the United States

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)), the text of a proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, with accompanying annex and agreed minute. I am also pleased to transmit my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the agreement, and the memorandum of the Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency with the Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement concerning the agreement. The joint memorandum submitted to me by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, which includes a summary of the provisions of the agreement and various other attachments, including agency views, is also enclosed.

The proposed agreement with Brazil has been negotiated in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 and as otherwise amended. In my judgment, the proposed agreement meets all statutory requirements and will advance the nonproliferation and other foreign policy interests of the United States. The agreement provides a comprehensive framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the United States and Brazil under appropriate conditions and controls reflecting a strong common commitment to nuclear nonproliferation goals.

The proposed new agreement will replace an existing United States-Brazil agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation that entered into force on September 20, 1972, and by its terms would expire on September 20, 2002. The United States suspended cooperation with Brazil under the 1972 agreement in the late 1970s because Brazil did not satisfy a provision of section 128 of the Atomic Energy Act (added by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978) that required full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards in nonnuclear weapon states such as Brazil as a condition for continued significant U.S. nuclear exports.

On December 13, 1991, Brazil, together with Argentina, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABAAC) and the IAEA signed a quadrilateral agreement calling for the application of full-scope IAEA safeguards in Brazil and Argentina. This safeguards agreement was brought into force on March 4, 1994. Resumption of cooperation would be possible under the 1972 United States-Brazil agreement for cooperation. However, both the United States and Brazil believe it is preferable to launch a new era of cooperation with a new agreement that reflects, among other things:

—An updating of terms and conditions to take account of intervening changes in the respective domestic legal and regulatory frameworks of the Parties in the area of peaceful nuclear cooperation;

—Reciprocity in the application of the terms and conditions of cooperation between the Parties; and

—Additional international nonproliferation commitments entered into by the Parties since 1972.

Over the past several years Brazil has made a definitive break with earlier ambivalent nuclear policies and has embraced wholeheartedly a series of important steps demonstrating its firm commitment to the exclusively peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In addition to its full-scope safeguards agreement with the IAEA, Brazil has taken the following important nonproliferation steps:

—It has formally renounced nuclear weapons development in the Foz do Iguazsu declaration with Argentina in 1990;

—It has renounced "peaceful nuclear explosives" in the 1991 Treaty of Guadalajara with Argentina;

—It has brought the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) into force for itself on May 30, 1994;

—It has instituted more stringent domestic controls on nuclear exports and become a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group; and

—It has announced its intention, on June 20, 1997, to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The proposed new agreement with Brazil permits the transfer of technology, material, equipment (including reactors), and components for nuclear research and nuclear power production. It provides for U.S. consent rights to retransfers, enrichment, and reprocessing as required by U.S. law. It does not permit transfers of any sensitive nuclear technology, restricted data, or sensitive nuclear facilities or major critical components thereof. In the event of termination key conditions and controls continue with respect to material and equipment subject to the agreement.

From the U.S. perspective, the proposed new agreement improves on the 1972 agreement by the addition of a number of important provisions. These include the provisions for full-scope safeguards; perpetuity of safeguards; a ban on ''peaceful'' nuclear explosives using items subject to the agreement; a right to require the return of items subject to the agreement in all circumstances for which U.S. law requires such a right; a guarantee of adequate physical security; and rights to approve enrichment of uranium subject to the agreement and alteration in form or consent of sensitive nuclear material subject to the agreement.

I have considered the views and recommendations of the interested agencies in reviewing the proposed agreement and have determined that its performance will promote, and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. Accordingly, I have approved the agreement and authorized its execution and urge that the Congress give it favorable consideration.

Because this agreement meets all applicable requirements of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, for agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation, I am transmitting it to the Congress without exempting it from any requirement contained in section 123 a. of that Act. This transmission shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act. The Administration is prepared to begin immediately the consultations with the Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations Committees as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the 30-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 b., the 60-day continuous session provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
October 30, 1997.

Remarks at the Tropical Shipping Company in Palm Beach, Florida

October 31, 1997

Thank you. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. As you can see, we are slightly delayed. [*Laughter*] When I took off this morning at 6:30 from the White House it was clear and beautiful. We had our normal 15-minute helicopter ride to Andrews Air Force Base, which was shrouded in fog. We flew around for 20 minutes in the airplane. When we got on the ground, it was like being in a sci-fi movie. It took us another 20 minutes to find Air Force One. [*Laughter*] You couldn't see your hand before you. And then we sat and sat and sat. So thanks for waiting. And Happy Halloween. [*Laughter*]

Now, your leader here told me about your normal Halloween dress. And I feel cheated that you didn't wear your costumes this morning. [*Laughter*] I used to do that, but since I became President they have relegated me to a small pin. [*Laughter*] But I hope you have a good time when we get out of here.

As you can tell, my voice has given out on me, and therefore, most of my remarks are going to be delivered by our fine Secretary of Commerce, Bill Daley, who is from Chicago, my wife's hometown, where they just—[*applause*]—somebody is from Chicago out there. They had a birthday celebration for Hillary's 50th birthday there, and I didn't think anything could make that a pleasant occurrence, but it actually did and she was happy with it. [*Laughter*]

Secretary Daley just came back from our trip to Latin America with me, and he'll have

some more to say about fast track. But before I introduce him, and before I completely lose my voice, I want to say that I have worked very hard so that there'd be more stories like Deborah Braziel's in this country. And in the last 5 years, we have vigorously pursued an economic strategy that would move us away from big deficits and move us away from living day-by-day, to have long-term, stable growth that hard-working Americans could participate in and benefit from.

We've had a commitment to reduce the deficit and balance the budget, to educate and train people and invest more in that and in technology, and to sell more American products and services around the world. That's been our strategy, and it's worked.

And I want to say a special word of thanks to Congressman Foley and Congressman Deutsch here, a Republican and a Democrat, for helping us to pass the historic balanced budget agreement that passed the Congress last summer. We haven't had a balanced budget since 1969, but the deficit has gone from $290 billion to $22½ billion in the last 4 years, and now we're going to balance the thing. It's going to be good for us.

We just learned today that over the past year our economy has grown at 4 percent. That's the fastest rate of growth in a decade, and one big reason is $125 billion in new exports. You helped the American economy to grow. You helped the American economy to create over 13 million jobs, and I thank you for it.

This strategy is working, and we have to continue to pursue it all. Yes, we reduced the deficit by 90 percent, but we needed that bill last August to balance the budget because our costs will keep going up if we don't continue to cut. We also need to invest more in education, and we've done more to open the doors of college than ever before, with tax credits and scholarships and better loans and education IRA's. And a lot of your children will now be able to take advantage of that, and maybe some of you will want to take advantage of that.

But it's a three-legged stool; we have got to have the exports. This fast-track debate in Washington is totally, I think, off the radar screen for most Americans. I bet, if you ask most people what fast track was, they'd say it's a new television series or maybe a new offensive football strategy. It's simply the same authority that Presidents have had for the last 20-odd years, to negotiate agreements, take them back to Congress, and have them vote up or down.

If I go and make an agreement with somebody who lives in a different system of government, they don't understand if—they can understand if the Congress rejects the agreement, but they don't want to have to negotiate it again with 535 people after they negotiate it with my representatives. So most countries simply won't enter into agreements with us unless I have the authority to make an agreement and say, ''Now, the Congress is the ultimate decider here. They've got to vote up or down. If it's bad for America, they're not going to vote for it. But at least you won't have it rewritten. We'll vote it up or down.'' That's all this bill does, and that's why Presidents have had it for the last 20-something years.

So I hope you will stick with us. I hope you'll urge the Congressmen and Senators to vote for it. And I hope you'll tell them that without regard to party, this is an American issue. It's helped to create jobs here at Tropical. It will help to take us into the 21st century. And if they'll stick with you on this, you will stick with them.

Thank you very much. Now I'd like to ask Secretary Daley to come up and say what I wish I had the strength to say.

Secretary Daley.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Secretary Daley. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen for your patience. Even with an unbelievably bad voice, he is better than anyone else who could stand up here, so it is difficult.

I thank you also for not being cheered out, after the great victory by the Marlins and being here. I thank you for putting up with this late substitution. On Halloween, I know you're all expecting quite a treat, but instead you have gotten a trick, and I'm sorry about that. [*Laughter*] But I think we could all sympathize with the President. And, Mr. President, I do feel your pain. [*Laughter*]

If you'll all bear with me, the President has asked me to read his remarks that he would have given. This is a rather awkward

situation for me to stand here in front of him and read his remarks. There's probably only one person in this entire audience who is truly happy that this is occurring, and that's the President's speechwriter, because this will be the first time his entire text has ever been read. [*Laughter*] So let me begin.

''Six years ago, when I announced my candidacy for President, I said that America had a vital mission for the 21st century, and that was to keep the American dream alive for every person responsible enough to work for it; to keep America the world's strongest force for peace, freedom, and prosperity; and to bring our people together across all the lines that divide us into one America.

''We started with a new economic policy for the new economy, putting in place a bold three-part strategy to shrink the deficit, invest in our people, and lower unfair trade barriers to our goods. And this strategy has succeeded: strong annual growth and low inflation; more than 13 million new jobs, the deficit down 90 percent; even before the balanced budget law saves a single penny; America is leading the world in auto production once again; and unemployment is below five percent.

''We have made tremendous progress. But we have much more to do to prepare America for the 21st century. And Congress faces a decisive choice, whether to continue with a strategy that has helped give America the strongest economy in a generation. For one week from today, the House of Representatives will decide whether or not to keep America's exports growing with its vote on fast track. I applaud Speaker Gingrich for scheduling this vote and for his commitment to work in a bipartisan basis to enact this most important legislation this year.

''The arithmetic of the new economy is the following: We have 4 percent of the world's population and 20 percent of its income; 96 percent of the world's consumers live outside the United States; and the developing countries are growing 3 times as fast as the developed countries. So if we want to keep our income with our population base, we have to sell even more to the other 96 percent, especially those who are growing so rapidly.

''The workers here at Tropical Shipping know that more than anyone. And so do the workers throughout this great State of Florida. For the exports from Florida have increased over the past 4 years by more than 50 percent, to over $30 billion. And that's one reason why this economy in Florida has been able to create a million new jobs during that same period. And here in West Palm Beach, Boca Raton metropolitan area, exports are up over $200 million since 1993.

''But there is still much, much more to do and many barriers to those American products. So we owe it to the working men and women of America and around our entire country to level the playing field for trade so that when our workers are given a fair chance they can and they do out-compete anyone anyplace in the world.''

Congress must take this opportunity—it must not take this opportunity away from the American people to compete. For more than 20 years, as the President stated, every President, Democrat or Republican, has had this authority. If Congress grants this authority, we can use it to open trade where American firms are leading, such as computer software, medical equipment, environmental technologies. America can use it to open the markets of Chile and other Latin American countries to our goods and also our services.

We all know we must do better to raise the living standards and environmental standards throughout the world. This trade authority will give me the leverage to negotiate agreements that do exactly that.

The bills now waiting for a vote on the floor of the House and Senate offer the most detailed and concrete authority to negotiate these issues which have ever been included in this sort of legislation. And because we know that expanded world trade does not always benefit all Americans equally, we're working with Members of Congress to develop new initiatives to bring more Americans into this winner's circle. And with these initiatives we will increase our investment in communities that suffer from dislocation and in those workers who lose their jobs because of trade agreement technology or any other reason.

So let's all be clear. Walking away from this opportunity will not create or save a single American job. It will not help a child in

any country of the world come out of a sweatshop. It will not clean up a single toxic site in any nation. Turning away will not expand our economy, it will not enhance our competitiveness, and it will not empower our workers. It will give away markets, and it will give away jobs. It will jeopardize America's preeminent role and position in this world.

Fast track is the key to U.S. leadership in the world economy, and now is not the time to raise questions about that leadership. Over the past 4½ years our three-part strategy for security and growth has worked better than anyone had imagined. We have reduced the deficit to the lowest levels since the early 1970's. We have invested in our people with historic new commitments to education and health for all Americans. And we have raised American living standards by opening new markets to quality American goods and services. And thanks to this strategy and the hard work of American people, we stand poised at the threshold of a new century, stronger than ever before.

America must not retreat on the strategy that has brought us to this place of promise. America must not return to a mind-set which is rooted in the past. Instead, America must move forward on all three crucial elements to our strategy. As you are doing here in south Florida, America must boldly seize the opportunities that stand before us into this next great century.

Thank you very much. God bless you, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:15 p.m. in the warehouse. In his remarks, he referred to Deborah Braziel, Tropical Shipping Co. employee, who introduced the President.

Remarks at Lighthouse Elementary School in Jupiter, Florida

October 31, 1997

Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you. Hello! Well, I finally made it. First, you know, I hurt my leg, and I couldn't come. And this morning, I got up at 5:30, and I was getting ready to come here, and I thought, I'm going to be able to keep my promise to the children at Lighthouse Elementary. Then we got to the airport, and it was so foggy in Washington that I couldn't see my hand before me, and we had to wait for 2 hours to take off. So I made you late, and now you are a little bit wet. [*Laughter*] But you look beautiful to me, and I thank you for making me feel so welcome. Thank you.

I want to thank Congressman Deutsch and Congressman Foley for coming with me, and, Mayor, thank you for making me feel so welcome. Principal Hukill, thank you for what you said. And I thought Jessica did a wonderful job introducing me, didn't you?

I'd also like to thank the people who are here from the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, Palm Beach America Reads. The district president of the Miami Dade Community College, Dr. Padron, is here, I think. And I thank you all for being here. And I thank the middle school band for being here. I hope you'll play me some music when I'm finished speaking. I want to hear you.

I am so glad to be here with all of you today, because one of my most important responsibilities as President is to do everything I can to see that you get a world-class education. You know you are living in a world that is dominated by computers and technology. But you also live in a world which you can't fully enjoy them unless you can read well, unless you can do basic math, unless you can learn the things that your teachers are trying to teach you.

And about a year ago I tried to think of what I wanted to say to America in one sentence about our schools. And it is that I want an America in which every 8-year-old child can read a good book on his or her own, in which every 12-year-old can log on to the Internet, in which every 18-year-old, without regard to their family's income, can go to college, and every adult can keep on learning for a lifetime. Will you help me make that kind of America? Will you do that?

I want to thank all of the people here who helped Lighthouse Elementary succeed, to show that every school, to succeed, needs to be a community school or, as my wife says, a school where the whole village is involved in helping children learn. There are 250 volunteers who contribute at least a thousand hours of their time to the students and the teachers every month. That's wonderful. If

every school could say that, education in America would be much better. You should be proud of yourselves.

I also want to congratulate the students here who participate in the Sunshine State Readers program and read 15 books a month and write reports on them. I wish I still had time to read 15 books a month. You will never regret it. And if you don't read that much a month, every one of you should do whatever you can to read more. You will learn a lot and help yourselves, and it's a lot of fun.

Let me finally say that we are going to do everything we can in Washington to help make sure that a college education will be there for you if you'll work hard at school and learn what you need to know. We want to help your families send you to college. We want to help get high standards in the later grades as well. But in the end, it all depends on every one of you, what's in your heart and what's in your mind.

When you were singing your school song today and you felt good doing it, that's the way I want you to feel when you're in class. I want you to be proud of what you can learn, and I want you to believe that every one of you was given a mind by God that can learn. You can all learn. You can all do better. You can all learn more.

So be brave and have a good time and make the most of your education. And thank you so much for making me feel so welcome today.

God bless you all.

NOTE. The President spoke at 1:16 p.m. on the athletic field. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Karen Golonka of Jupiter; Una Hukill, principal, Lighthouse Elementary School; and Jessica Haft, student, who introduced the President; and Eduardo Padron, president, Miami-Dade Community College.

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.

October 27

In the evening, the President traveled to Chicago, IL.

October 28

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the afternoon.

The President announced his intention to nominate Katherine L. Archuleta to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sallyanne Harper to serve as Chief Financial Officer at the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced the nomination of Wilma B. Liebman and Peter J. Hurtgen, and his intention to nominate Joseph Robert Brame to serve as members of the National Labor Relations Board.

October 29

In the morning, the President met with President Jiang Zemin of China in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to nominate Susanne T. Marshall to serve as a member of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles Dolan and announced the nominations of Penne Percy Korth and Hank Brown as members of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

October 31

In the morning, the President traveled to West Palm Beach and Jupiter, FL.

In the afternoon, the President attended a Democratic National Committee luncheon at a private residence in Palm Beach.

In the evening, the President traveled to Boca Raton, FL, where he attended a Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee dinner at a private residence. Later, he traveled to Jacksonville, FL.

The President announced his intention to appoint David W. Dorman, Joseph F. Thompson, Irving Wladawsky-Berger, and John P. Miller as members of the Advisory

Committee on High Performance Computing and Communications, Information Technology, and the Next Generation Internet.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

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

Submitted October 27

Peter J. Hurtgen,
of Florida, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring August 27, 2001, vice John E. Higgins, Jr.

Wilma B. Liebman,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 16, 1997, vice Margaret Browning.

Wilma B. Liebman,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring December 16, 2002 (reappointment).

Withdrawn October 27

Hershel W. Gober,
of Arkansas, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, vice Jesse Brown, resigned, which was sent to the Senate on July 31, 1997.

Alphonso Maldon, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, vice Hershel Wayne Gober, which was sent to the Senate on September 26, 1997.

Submitted October 28

Katherine L. Archuleta,
of Colorado, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development for the remainder of the term expiring May 19, 2000, vice LaDonna Harris, resigned.

Joseph Robert Brame III,
of Virginia, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring December 16, 1999, vice John C. Truesdale.

Sallyanne Harper,
of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency, vice Jonathan Z. Cannon, resigned.

Hank Brown,
of Colorado, to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring April 6, 2000, vice Walter R. Roberts, term expired.

Penne Percy Korth,
of Texas, to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2000, vice William Hybl, term expired.

Susanne T. Marshall,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for the term of 7 years expiring March 1, 2004, vice Antonio C. Amador, resigned.

Submitted October 31

Beverly Baldwin Martin,
of Georgia, to be U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of 4 years, vice James Lamar Wiggins.

Robert M. McNamara, Jr.,
of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency (new position).

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 October 27

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of remarks by the First Lady at birthday party in Chicago, IL

Released October 29

Transcript of a press briefing by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on the visit of President Jiang Zemin of China

Fact sheet: Accomplishments of U.S.-China Summit

Released October 30

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of remarks by Vice President Al Gore on unveiling the Starbright World online computer network

Released October 31

Transcript of prepared remarks by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger at the National Security Council 50th anniversary symposium

Announcement of nomination for U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia

Acts Approved by the President

Approved October 27

H.R. 2158 / Public Law 105–65
Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998

H.R. 2169 / Public Law 105–66
Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998

Approved October 30

H.J. Res. 75 / Public Law 105–67
To confer status as an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces on Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope

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