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What I prefer is a future in which my generation can retire, those who are not as fortunate as me can retire in dignity, but we can do it in a way that does not burden you and your ability to raise our grandchildren, because I believe the best days of this country lie ahead of us if we fulfill our responsibilities today for tomorrow.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:53 a.m. in Gaston Hall. In his remarks, he referred to Father Leo J. O'Donovan, president, Georgetown University; former Congressman Timothy J. Penny, board member, Concord Coalition; John Rother, director of legislation and public policy, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP); and Mannone Butler, Georgetown Law School student, who introduced the President. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Executive Order 13074—Amendment to Executive Order 12656

February 9, 1998

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to reflect the appropriate allocation of funding responsibilities for Noncombatant Evacuation Operations, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order 12656 is amended by adding a new section 501(16) to read as follows:

> "Subject to the direction of the President, and pursuant to procedures to be developed jointly by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State, be responsible for the deployment and use of military forces for the protection of United States citizens and nationals and, in connection therewith, designated other persons or categories of persons, in support of their evacuation from threatened areas overseas."

William J. Clinton

The White House,
February 9, 1998

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:45 a.m., February 11, 1998]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on February 12.

Memorandum on the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization

February 9, 1998

Presidential Determination No. 98–14

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: U.S. Contribution to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO)

Pursuant to the requirements set forth under the heading "Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs" in title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105–118), I certify that:

(1)(A) the parties to the Agreed Framework are taking steps to assure that progress is made on the implementation of the January 1, 1992, Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the implementation of the North-South dialogue, and (B) North Korea is complying with the other provisions of the Agreed Framework between North Korea and the United States and with the Confidential Minute;

(2) North Korea is cooperating fully in the canning and safe storage of all spent fuel from its graphite-moderated nuclear reactors and that such canning and safe storage is scheduled to be completed by April 1, 1998; and

(3) North Korea has not significantly diverted assistance provided by the United States for purposes for which it was not intended.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 10.

Remarks on Departure for Capitol Hill

February 10, 1998

Thank you very much. Thank you, and good morning. Let me begin by saying how very pleased I am for the support we are receiving from all around the world for our stand against Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction program. Friends and allies share our conviction that Saddam must not be allowed to develop nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons or the missiles to deliver them.

Yesterday, the Governments of Canada and Australia announced that they are prepared to join the United States, Great Britain, and other allies in a military operation should one prove necessary. As I have said before, I hope we can avoid the use of force. The choice is up to Saddam Hussein. Let the weapons inspectors back on the job with free and unfettered access. But if Saddam will not comply with the will of the international community, we must be prepared to act. And I am very grateful that others are prepared to stand with America.

Now, today, as has been said, I am transmitting to Congress the annual "Economic Report of the President." Let me begin by thanking the Council of Economic Advisers for their hard work in preparing the report. I also want to thank our wonderful economic team for all they have done to promote prosperity for the American people. As the "Economic Report of the President" makes clear, our economy is strong; our prosperity is deep; our prospects are bright.

For 5 years our Nation has pursued a new economic strategy for the information age. We have reduced the deficit to slash interest rates and spur private sector investment. We've opened markets to create high-wage jobs. We've invested in the skills and education of our people so that every American has the chance to reap the benefits of the new economy. All around us we see the results in revitalized basic industries, thriving new industries, an investment boom, a vibrant American economy.

In this report, the Council of Economic Advisers projects continued growth through at least the next year. That would mark the longest peacetime expansion in the history of the United States. As this report makes plain, the expanding economy is producing wider opportunity and rising incomes for American families. Since 1993 the income of a typical family has increased $2,200 beyond inflation. We've seen the fastest growth in real hourly wages in 20 years, after 12 years in which real wages actually fell.

The standard of living is rising faster than the cost of living now. And America has grown together, not apart, with the poorest fifth of our families seeing the largest percentage jump in their income. While incomes are rising, taxes are falling. A typical family earning $50,000 a year now has the lowest tax burden in two decades; families earning $25,000 a year, the lowest tax burden in three decades.

This economy is the envy of the world. But the progress was not predestined. We must press forward with the strategy that is now expanding opportunities for American families, not abandon it. Above all, we must maintain our fiscal discipline. It is the foundation of our prosperity. My view is clear: Every penny of any projected budget surplus should be reserved until we have taken all the steps necessary to save Social Security for the 21st century.

I am heartened by the strong support this approach has gained from the American people, including the young people to whom I spoke yesterday at Georgetown University. And I am pleased by the strong support Members of Congress of both parties have given for saving Social Security first.

In the past week, some have said that before we save Social Security, we should repeal the iron laws of fiscal discipline. They want to weaken the longstanding pay-as-you-go rule for taxes, which says that any spending proposal or any new tax cut must be paid for in the budget. This rule has been a key to our drive to balance the budget.

Let me be clear: Fiscal irresponsibility gave us 12 years of exploding deficits, division, declining wages. Fiscal responsibility has given us the strongest economy in a generation. I will not allow a return to the policies that have failed us in the past. Let us