

the United States on all government buildings throughout the day.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, 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., May 5, 1998]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on May 6.

### **Proclamation 7091—Loyalty Day, 1998**

*May 1, 1998*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

More than two centuries ago, our Nation's founders, with clear vision and courageous hearts, fashioned a new form of government for our new country. They created a government that honors human dignity and protects individual rights—a democracy strong enough to withstand external threats, secure enough to allow dissent from within, and responsive enough to help our citizens achieve their dreams. In doing so, America's founders created a Nation that inspired loyalty from its citizens and gave hope to oppressed peoples around the world.

Since then, generations of Americans have reaffirmed their loyalty and devotion to our country. During times of war, Americans have fought and died to defend our liberty and promote the ideals of democracy. In times of peace, we have strived to preserve the rights secured for us in the Constitution and to ensure that every American enjoys the full protection of those rights. And throughout the decades, Americans have strived to build upon the "more perfect Union" envisioned by our country's founders.

On Loyalty Day, as we formally acknowledge our faith in America and in this great democracy, let us rededicate ourselves to the continuing quest for a more perfect union.

Let us have the courage not only to recognize our differences, but also to build on the dreams we share and on the values we hold in common. Let us reaffirm our belief in freedom, equality, justice, and opportunity for all of our people. And let us show to all the world that our diversity is a source of lasting strength and renewal.

The Congress, by Public Law 85-529, has designated May 1 of each year as "Loyalty Day" to remind us of the many blessings we enjoy as citizens of this great land.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton**, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 1, 1998, as Loyalty Day. I urge all Americans to recognize the heritage of American freedom, to honor the memory of those who have served and sacrificed in defense of that freedom, and to express our loyalty to our Nation through appropriate patriotic programs, ceremonies, and activities. I also call upon Government officials to display the flag of the United States in support of this national observance.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, 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., May 5, 1998]

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### **Message to the Senate Transmitting the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions** *May 1, 1998*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (the "Convention"), adopted at Paris on November 21,

1997, by a conference held under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The Convention was signed in Paris on December 17, 1997, by the United States and 32 other nations.

I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, interpretive Commentaries on the Convention, adopted by the negotiating conference in conjunction with the Convention, that are relevant to the Senate's consideration of the Convention. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention.

Since the enactment in 1977 of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the United States has been alone in specifically criminalizing the business-related bribery of foreign public officials. United States corporations have contended that this has put them at a significant disadvantage in competing for international contracts with respect to foreign competitors who are not subject to such laws. Consistent with the sense of the Congress, as expressed in the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, encouraging negotiation of an agreement within the OECD governing the type of behavior that is prohibited under the FCPA, the United States has worked assiduously within the OECD to persuade other countries to adopt similar legislation. Those efforts have resulted in this Convention that once in force, will require that the Parties enact laws to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials to obtain or retain business or other improper advantage in the conduct of international business.

While the Convention is largely consistent with existing U.S. law, my Administration will propose certain amendments to the FCPA to bring it into conformity with and to implement the Convention. Legislation will be submitted separately to the Congress.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Convention, and that it give its advice and consent to ratification.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
May 1, 1998.

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## **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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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.

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### **April 27**

The President announced his intention to nominate Rudolf Vilem Perina to be Ambassador to Moldova.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael C. Lemmon to be Ambassador to Armenia.

The President announced his intention to appoint Jesse Brown as Vice-Chair, and Vinh Cam, Marc Cisneros, David Moore, Alan Steinman, and Elmo Zumwalt as members of the Special Oversight Board for Department of Defense Investigations of Gulf War Chemical and Biological Incidents.

### **April 28**

In the evening, the President traveled to New York City, and later, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey Davidow to be Ambassador to Mexico.

The President announced his intention to nominate John O'Leary to be Ambassador to Chile.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mari Carmen Aponte to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

The President announced his intention to nominate E. William Crotty to be Ambassador to Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The President announced his intention to nominate Arthur Schechter to be Ambassador to the Bahamas.

### **April 29**

In the morning, the President met with President Isaias Afworki of Eritrea in the Oval Office.

In an afternoon ceremony in the Roosevelt Room, the President presented the Presidential Citizens Medal to Albert Abramson.