

Week Ending Friday, September 10, 1999

**Statement on the Middle East
Peace Process**

September 3, 1999

I am extremely pleased that the leaders of Israel and the PLO have reached an agreement that will allow them to resume implementation of the Wye River accords and restart permanent status talks on an accelerated basis. I congratulate the two leaders for their vision in seizing this opportunity. It shows that when both sides are willing to work together, their fundamental requirements can be met, confidence can be built, and the process can move forward.

I thank the Egyptian Government, especially my good friend President Hosni Mubarak, for helping to facilitate the agreement. I am grateful to Secretary of State Albright and her team. Their personal involvement made the difference in helping the two sides to bridge remaining gaps and reach consensus.

This truly is a new beginning. A lasting, just, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is now a step closer. The Israelis and Palestinians are doing their part to bring it about. We must do ours. Today I call on the Congress to fund fully the commitments we made when the Wye accords were first signed.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Executive Order 13136—
Amendment to Executive Order
13090, President's Commission on
the Celebration of Women in
American History**

September 3, 1999

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in accordance

with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), in order to extend the life of the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History ("Commission") to provide additional time to develop support systems and test the viability of the recommendations included in the Commission's report to the President, it is hereby ordered that section 2(c) of Executive Order 13090 is amended by deleting "March 1, 1999." and inserting "December 31, 2000." in lieu thereof.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 3, 1999.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:37 a.m., September 7, 1999]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on September 8. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Message on the Observance
of Labor Day, 1999**

September 3, 1999

Warm greetings to all Americans across our country as we celebrate Labor Day.

For more than a century, we have set aside this day to honor our nation's working men and women whose energy, talent, creativity, and determination have built the foundations of freedom and prosperity that generations of Americans have enjoyed. Through the decades, America's workers have built a strong economy and strived to bring justice and dignity to the workplace.

Today all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to our nation's labor force. Since 1992, we have experienced the longest peacetime economic expansion in American history, with nearly 20 million new jobs, wages rising at twice the rate of inflation, the highest