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budget that was good for the American people.

And my overwhelming hope is that we'll do that again. And the only way to do that is, we've got to take some of their ideas, and they've got to take some of ours, and maybe we'll come up with a third way. But what I always believe is that no matter how much progress we make, there will be enough honest differences for the people, for the voters to make a judgment at election time on whom they would choose for President, Vice President, Senate, Congress.

So what I'm just hoping is that we'll find a way to do what we've done ever since '96, and we'll find a way to do some things together that are quite important. And we have done some important things. We did welfare reform together. We did the Balanced Budget Act of '97 together. We did the child health insurance program together. We made some remarkable steps forward in education in '98 and '99. We had—4 years ago, this after-school program was a $1 million experiment. Now there are 850,000 kids in after-school programs in America.

There was a study yesterday in the paper by the Urban Institute that said, I think, 4 million more children that go home alone after school, between the age of 6 and 12. This budget would put another 850,000 to a million of those kids in after-school programs.

So every year we've been able to do some things that are—that every one of us, without regard to party, could be proud of. And we've kept this deficit coming down, and now we've got a surplus, and we're paying the debt off.

So that's my goal, that within that framework we'll just keep on trucking, and we'll do the best we can. And the American people will make their judgment in November, and the country will go on and be just fine.

Bush Campaign "Rats" Ad

Q. What do you think of the "rat" ads, sir?

The President. I think you can deal with that one without my help. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:30 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of House Speaker Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Lott, Senate Minority Leader Daschle, and House Minority Leader Gephardt. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Need for Congressional Action on Housing Vouchers

September 12, 2000

I am pleased that, today, Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Andrew Cuomo is announcing a plan to increase payment levels for Section 8 housing choice vouchers. Raising the fair market rent level in certain difficult housing markets across the country will increase the pool of apartments affordable to low-income renters by more than 1.4 million units nationwide. This important initiative builds on the significant progress the Vice President and I have made on affordable housing—boosting homeownership to record levels, transforming public housing, stemming the losses of privately assisted housing, expanding the role of secondary markets, and enlarging the supply of housing vouchers for hard-pressed working families.

This decision to change rent guidelines to reflect a changing market complements the 110,000 new housing vouchers secured through the efforts of my administration working with Congress in the past 2 years. These housing vouchers subsidize the rents of low-income Americans, enabling them to move closer to job opportunities—many of which are being created far from where these families live. The new rent rule will give voucher holders more choice and mobility than they have under current regulations.

I urge Congress to again join us in making make more housing available to hard-pressed working families, including those moving from welfare to work, by funding my FY 2001 budget request for 120,000 new housing vouchers. In addition, our proposal for an innovative $50 million Housing Voucher Success Fund would enhance the effect of this fair market rent increase by helping families pay for the cost of transportation and other housing search services they need to access

a wider range of available units. These budget proposals would expand the supply of affordable housing for the 5.4 million very low income families who pay more than half their incomes for housing or live in severely inadequate units, including a growing number of families working full time.

More than 50 years ago, the Nation committed itself to the goal of a "decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family." Today's action brings us a step closer toward that goal.

Memorandum on the Continuation of the Exercise of Certain Authorities Under the Trading With the Enemy Act

September 12, 2000

Presidential Determination No. 2000–29

Subject: Continuation of the Exercise of Certain Authorities Under the Trading With the Enemy Act

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury

Under section 101(b) of Public Law 95–223 (91 Stat. 1625; 50 U.S.C. App. 5(b) note), and a previous determination made by me on September 10, 1999 (64 *Fed. Reg.* 51885), the exercise of certain authorities under the Trading With the Enemy Act is scheduled to terminate on September 14, 2000.

I hereby determine that the continuation for 1 year of the exercise of those authorities with respect to the applicable countries is in the national interest of the United States.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 101(b) of Public Law 95–223, I continue for 1 year, until September 14, 2001, the exercise of those authorities with respect to countries affected by:

(1) the Foreign Assets Control Regulations, 31 CFR part 500;
(2) the Transaction Control Regulations, 31 CFR part 505; and
(3) the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, 31 CFR part 515.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
Washington, September 12, 2000.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 13, 2000]

NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on September 14.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Azerbaijan-United States Investment Treaty With Documentation

September 12, 2000

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 Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex, signed at Washington on August 1, 1997, together with an amendment to the Treaty set forth in an exchange of diplomatic notes dated August 8, 2000, and August 25, 2000. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to this Treaty.

The Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) with Azerbaijan is the fourth such treaty signed between the United States and a Transcaucasian or Central Asian country. The Treaty will protect U.S. investment and assist Azerbaijan in its efforts to develop its economy by creating conditions more favorable for U.S. private investment and thereby strengthening the development of its private sector.

The Treaty furthers the objectives of U.S. policy toward international and domestic investment. A specific tenet of U.S. policy, reflected in this Treaty, is that U.S. investment abroad and foreign investment in the United States should receive national treatment. Under this Treaty, the Parties also agree to