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Week Ending Saturday, January 20, 2001

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Security Strategy of the United States

January 11, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 603 of the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986, I am transmitting a report on the National Security Strategy of the United States.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 12. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Exchange With Reporters Following a Medical Checkup in Bethesda, Maryland

January 12, 2001

President's Health

Q. How did it go, Mr. President?

The President. Very well. My eyes are still dilated, so I have to be a little careful. They're a little foggy out here.

But before I leave, I would just like to thank the Bethesda Naval Hospital for the wonderful care they have given to me and to members of my family over these last 8 years. This is a terrific place, and these people have been great to me, not only in all my physicals but when I was so badly injured and on other occasions when I or someone in my family needed it. I'm very, very grateful to them.

Q. How is the knee?

The President. Oh, my knee is great. My knee is great. You'll get a report. My cholesterol is a little too high because I haven't exercised, and I ate all that Christmas dessert. But in 6 months it will be back to normal. [*Laughter*] I knew I was doing it, but what the heck. It was my last time, and I wanted to enjoy it.

Thank you.

NOTE: The exchange began at approximately 3:30 p.m. at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Proclamation 7390—Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday, 2001

January 12, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Seventy-two years ago, Martin Luther King, Jr., was born into a sharply divided Nation, a place where the color of a child's skin too often determined that child's destiny. America was a place where segregation and discrimination put limits on a black child's dreams, opportunities, and future.

Dr. King led America to a better place. With eloquence, he articulated the struggles and hopes of generations of African Americans. With the power of his leadership, he rallied Americans of every race and creed to join together in the march for justice. With courage, conviction, and faith in God, he sought to make real in everyday practice—in schools, in the workplace, in public accommodations, and in the hearts and minds of his fellow citizens—the civil rights victories that had been won in the courts.

Although his life was cruelly cut short before his mission was complete, he helped put our Nation firmly on the right path, where the ideals of liberty, equality, brotherhood, and justice are not merely words on a page,

but values honored by all. "Our freedom was not won a century ago," he said in 1968, "it is not won today; but some small part of it is in our hands, and we are marching no longer by ones and twos but in legions of thousands, convinced now it cannot be denied by any human force."

It is up to each of us to continue that march. The gallant freedom riders and freedom fighters of the civil rights era are growing older, and many, like Martin Luther King, Jr., are no longer among us. But their work must go on. There are still too many in our Nation who do not share equally in America's prosperity; minority unemployment and poverty rates, while decreasing, are still far above the national average; and the technical skills and resources needed for success in the global economy are still out of reach for hundreds of thousands of young Americans growing up in disadvantaged communities.

I encourage my fellow Americans to use this holiday, dedicated to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to his spirit of service, not as a day off, but rather as a day to make a difference in the lives of others—an opportunity to recognize where we have fallen short, to reach out to those who have been left behind, and to remove the barriers that keep us from becoming the promised land that Dr. King envisioned.

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 Monday, January 15, 2001, as the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday. I call upon all Americans to observe this occasion with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in honor of Dr. King's life and achievements and in response to his call to service.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 17, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Executive Order 13188—Amendment to Executive Order 13111, Extension of the Advisory Committee on Expanding Training Opportunities

January 12, 2001

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), and in order to extend the Advisory Committee on Expanding Training Opportunities for 2 years, it is hereby ordered that section 7(f) of Executive Order 13111 of January 12, 1999, is amended by deleting "2 years from the date of this order" and inserting "on January 11, 2003" in lieu thereof.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 12, 2001.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 17, 2001]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

January 13, 2001

Good morning. As I enter the final week of my Presidency, I'm extraordinarily grateful for all the progress we've made together these last 8 years: building the strongest economy in a generation, renewing our ethic of responsibility, and strengthening the bonds of community and family all across America. Today I want to talk about our progress in reducing youth violence and new steps we're taking to make our communities even safer.

Over the past few years, terrible tragedies at Columbine and other schools have forced us to take a hard look at youth violence and