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Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to the Taliban

January 17, 2001

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

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA"), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Taliban in Afghanistan that was declared in Executive Order 13129 of July 4, 1999.

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 18.

Statement on New Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances

January 18, 2001

I am pleased that the Department of Energy is today establishing four new energy efficiency standards for appliances that will save consumers and businesses more than $19 billion over the next 30 years. These standards once again demonstrate that environmental protection and economic growth go hand in hand. By reducing electricity use, the standards will not only make our electricity system more reliable but also will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollutants. I applaud the leadership and hard work of Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and his staff for bringing these consumer savings and environmental benefits to the American public.

These new standards for clothes washers, water heaters, residential heat pumps and central air conditioners, and commercial heating and cooling equipment are a critical part of our broader effort to address the greatest environmental challenge of the 21st century: global warming. The world's leading scientists have established that our climate is changing, that the rate of change is increasing, that human activities are a significant factor in climate change, and that climate change is likely to have many negative impacts on our environment and society.

As part of our effort to combat global warming, this administration has launched more than 50 major initiatives to improve energy efficiency and develop clean energy sources. Along with the new standards announced today, higher energy efficiency standards for appliances established by this administration will save consumers more than $10 billion and avoid carbon dioxide emissions of more than 225 million metric tons by 2010. We also made the Federal Government more efficient—in 1999 alone, we reduced our annual energy bill by $800 million. By 2010, these Federal energy savings will reduce annual emissions by an amount equal to taking 1.7 million cars off the road.

I am proud of the progress we have made and am confident that it will serve as a foundation upon which our Nation can continue to meet the profound challenge of climate change.

Executive Order 13193—Federal Leadership on Global Tobacco Control and Prevention

January 18, 2001

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Policy.* It shall be the policy of the executive branch to take strong action to address the potential global epidemic of diseases caused by tobacco use. The executive branch shall undertake activities to increase its capacity to address global tobacco prevention and control issues through coordinated domestic action, limited bilateral assistance to individual nations, and support to multilateral organizations. International activities shall be directed towards deterring children from tobacco use, protecting nonsmokers, and providing information about the adverse health effects of tobacco use and the health benefits of cessation.