

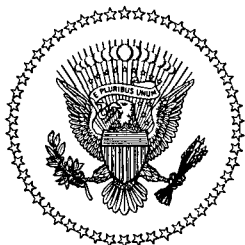
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Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



Monday, December 16, 1991  
Volume 27—Number 50  
Pages 1785–1833

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## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

## PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, December 13, 1991

**Remarks to the Pearl Harbor Survivors  
Association in Honolulu, Hawaii**  
*December 7, 1991*

*The President.* Please be seated, everybody. And, Jerry Glaubitz, thank you, sir. Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for your leadership to this wonderful organization.

May I salute Secretary Ed Derwinski, Reverend Morgan, and most of all, fellow veterans.

From this sacred ground near the waters of Pearl Harbor, we remember the moment when the Pacific Ocean erupted in a storm of fire and blood. We remember a morning when America, where some thought isolation meant security, awoke wounded, and reeling, plunged into a desperate fight for world freedom.

I remember the crackle of the radio and the voice of our President. "We are going to win the war," FDR told us, "and we are going to win the peace that follows." We won the war and secured the peace because American men and women responded bravely and instinctively to their Nation's call. Within hours after the cruel surprise attack began, many died, having done what came naturally: They fought for their family and friends, defending the land they loved. They did not set out to become heroes, but they did.

When torpedoes crippled the U.S.S. *California*'s ammunition hoists, Warrant Officer Thomas Reeves stood in a smoke-filled passageway and organized a human supply chain to move the ammunition. He worked with all his might till the smoke overcame him. He died that day aboard *California*, and he rests today in this cemetery.

During the attack, Chief Boatswain Eddie Hill of the U.S.S. *Nevada* swam from the dock back out to his ship, ignoring the bombs falling all around him. He, too, died in the attack and rests here.

The Bible says, "Love is strong as death." To die for country, for family: that is the truth whispered by these rows of markers.

I remember Ernie Pyle, and I'll bet everybody behind me and in front of me remembers Ernie Pyle, too. The greatest of war correspondents, he fell to the enemy machinegun fire on Ie Shima. He lies here in this cemetery among the GI's he loved and honored so well. His plain-spoken news dispatches from the front reminded us that behind the battle statistics were true-life stories of how boys became men and men became heroes.

He told us what was happening in the war, how our men were fighting. And by telling the stories of our servicemen to their hometowns and neighborhoods, he helped us understand why we were fighting, how our men at arms defended with all their hearts America's deepest ideals.

Americans did not wage war against nations or races. We fought for freedom and human dignity against the nightmare of totalitarianism. The world must never forget that the dictatorships we fought, the Hitler and Tojo regimes, committed war crimes and atrocities. Our servicemen struggled and sacrificed not only in defense of our free way of life, but also in the hope that the blessings of liberty some day might extend to all peoples.

Our cause was just and honorable, but not every American action was fully fair. This ground embraces many American veterans whose love of country was put to the test unfairly by our own authorities. These and other natural-born American citizens faced wartime internment, and they committed no crime. They were sent to internment camps simply because their ancestors were Japanese. Other Asian-Americans suffered discrimination, and even violence, because they were mistaken for Japanese. And they, too, were innocent victims, who committed no offense.

Here lie valiant servicemen of the 442d Regimental Combat Team and of the Mili-

tary Intelligence Service, Americans of Japanese ancestry who fought to defeat the Axis in Europe and in the Pacific. Among these, the late Senator Spark Matsunaga, a combat hero and survivor who went on to help lead postwar Hawaii to American statehood.

I remember sharing danger and friendship in these skies and on this ocean. Some of my closest friends, like many people here, your closest friends, never came home. Perhaps because of this experience, I can better understand what you survivors of Pearl Harbor are sensing and feeling here today. As all the veterans here know, when a friend or comrade in arms falls in battle, war grabs a part of your soul.

My roommate aboard the carrier *San Jacinto*, CVL-30, was a guy named Jim Wykes. And as we were about to go into combat for the first time, a strike over Wake Island, Jim Wykes and his crew were sent out on a search mission from which they never returned.

Many more from our little torpedo squadron were to give their lives. And the names of many of these, and more than 18,000 other World War II servicemen lost in action in the Pacific, are engraved in the walls of this magnificent memorial.

During every passage of my life, I've often thought of those who never returned. Some left children behind, and today those children, like my own kids, are raising children of their own. And thank God, each surviving generation has honored the memory of our heroes of the Second World War. Each new generation has risen to meet the challenge of winning the peace.

After vanquishing the dictators of Japan and Germany and Italy, America's war generation helped those countries rebuild and grow strong in the exercise of democracy and free enterprise. They affirmed again that our quarrel had not been with races or nations.

The American victors welcomed the new leaders of Japan and Germany and Italy into alliances that won the cold war and helped prevent the third world war. America and our wartime allies joined hands with the liberated peoples of our former foes to create and nurture international organizations aimed at protecting human rights, collective security, and economic growth.

Winning the peace, then as now, demands preparedness. The cause of harmony among nations is not a call for pacifism. We avoided a third world war because we were prepared to defend the free world against aggressors. The Pearl Harbor generation saw its younger brothers go to Korea, its sons to Vietnam to resist communism. Pearl Harbor's grandchildren answered the call to the Persian Gulf to reverse Saddam's aggression against Kuwait.

How fitting it is that this great cemetery holds so many who died for the cause of Korean and Vietnamese freedom. How honored we are to stand on this ground, consecrated with the remains of Marine Lance Corporal Frank Allen of Hawaii, who gave his life just 10 months ago in the battle to free Kuwait.

Every soldier and sailor and airman buried here offered his life so that others might be free. Not one of them died in vain. Our men and women who served in Korea and Vietnam, whose sacrifices too often have been forgotten or even reviled, are nearing their day of greatest vindication. For I have confidence that the tragedy of totalitarianism has entered its final scene everywhere on this Earth.

This morning's sun will course the Pacific skies and illuminate the lands of Asia. And just as certainly, the movement of human freedom will supplant dictatorships that now hold sway in Pyongyang and Rangoon and Hanoi, and yes, in China, too. For a billion yearning men and women, the future means freedom and democracy.

This fair December dawn breaks on a world ready for renewal. A high tide of hope swells for those that are committed to peace and freedom. The nations pushed by tyrants into war against us half a century ago join us today as free and constructive partners in the effort for peace. The Soviet Communists' designs for world domination have collapsed before the free world's resolve.

We've reached this morning because generation after generation of Americans kept faith with our founders and our heroes. From the snows of Valley Forge, to the fiery seas of Midway and Pearl Harbor, to the sands of Iraq and Kuwait, Americans lived and died true to their ideals. They

have prepared the way for a world of unprecedented freedom and cooperation. And thank God you Pearl Harbor survivors are here today to see this come to pass.

Today, as we remember the sacrifices of our countrymen, I salute all of you, the survivors of Pearl Harbor. And I ask all Americans to join me in a prayer: Lord, give our rising generations the wisdom to cherish their freedom and security as hard-won treasures. Lord, give them the same courage that pulsed in the blood of their fathers.

May God bless you all, and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 6:53 a.m. at the National Cemetery of the Pacific. In his remarks, he referred to Gerald Glaubitz, president of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association; and Reverend Joseph Morgan, a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.*

**Remarks at a Ceremony  
Commemorating the 50th Anniversary  
of Pearl Harbor  
December 7, 1991**

Thank you, Captain Ross. Thank you, sir. To our Secretary of Defense and our Chairman of our Joint Chiefs; members of our Cabinet; distinguished Governors here; and so many Members of the United States Congress; Admiral Larson; members of our Armed Forces, then and now; family and friends of the *Arizona* and *Utah*; fellow veterans. Thank you very much for that introduction, Don, and thank you all for that welcome.

It was a bright Sunday morning. Thousands of troops slept soundly in their bunks. Some who were awake looked out and savored the still and tranquil harbor.

And on the stern of the U.S.S. *Nevada*, a brass band prepared to play "The Star Spangled Banner." On other ships, sailors readied for the 8 a.m. flag raising. Ray Emory, who was on the *Honolulu*, read the morning newspaper. Aboard *California*,

yeoman Durell Connor wrapped Christmas presents. On the *West Virginia*, a machinist's mate looked at the photos just received from his wife. And they were of his 8-month-old son whom he had never seen.

On the mainland, people listened to the football games on the radio, turned to songs like the "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," comics like "Terry and the Pirates," movies like "Sergeant York." In New York, families went window-shopping. Out West, it was late morning, many families still at church.

At first, to the American sailors at Pearl, the hum of engines sounded routine, and why not? To them, the idea of war seemed palpable but remote. And then, in one horrible instant, they froze in disbelief. The abstract threat was suddenly real.

But these men did not panic. They raced to their stations, and some strapped pistols over pajamas, and fought and died. And what lived was the shock wave that soon swept across America, forever immortalizing December 7th, 1941. Ask anyone who endured that awful Sunday. Each felt like the writer who observed: "Life is never again as it was before anyone you love has died; never so innocent, never so gentle, never so pliant to your will."

Today we honor those who gave their lives at this place, half a century ago. Their names were Bertie and Gomez and Dougherty and Granger. And they came from Idaho and Mississippi, the sweeping farmland of Ohio. And they were of all races and colors, native-born and foreign-born. And most of all, of course, they were Americans.

Think of how it was for these heroes of the Harbor, men who were also husbands, fathers, brothers, sons. Imagine the chaos of guns and smoke, flaming water, and ghastly carnage. Two thousand, four hundred and three Americans gave their lives. But in this haunting place, they live forever in our memory, reminding us gently, selflessly, like chimes in the distant night.

Every 15 seconds a drop of oil still rises from the *Arizona* and drifts to the surface. As it spreads across the water, we recall the ancient poet: "In our sleep, pain that cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart, and in our own despair against our

will comes wisdom through the awful grace of God." With each drop, it is as though God Himself were crying. He cries, as we do, for the living and the dead: men like Commander Duncan Curry, firing a .45 at an attacking plane as tears streamed down his face.

We remember machinist's mate Robert Scott, who ran the air compressors powering the guns aboard *California*. And when the compartment flooded, the crew evacuated; Scott refused. "This is my station," he said, "I'm going to stay as long as the guns are going." And nearby, aboard *New Orleans*, the cruiser, Chaplain Forgy assured his troops it was all right to miss church that day. His words became legend: "You can praise the Lord and pass the ammunition."

Captain Ross, right here, then a warrant officer or was it a chief, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism aboard *Nevada* that day. I salute him, the other Congressional Medal winners with us today, wherever they may be also.

For the defenders of Pearl, heroism came as naturally as breath. They reacted instinctively by rushing to their posts. They knew as well that our Nation would be sustained by the nobility of its cause.

So did Americans of Japanese ancestry who came by the hundreds to give wounded Americans blood, and the thousands of their kinsmen all across America who took up arms for their country. Every American believed in the cause.

The men I speak of would be embarrassed to be called heroes. Instead, they would tell you, probably with defiance: "Foes can sink American ships, but not the American spirit. They may kill us, but never the ideals that made us proud to serve."

Talk to those who survived to fight another day. They would repeat the Navy hymn that Barbara and I sing every Sunday in the lovely little chapel up at Camp David: "Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave . . . O hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea."

Back in 1942, June of '42, I remember how Henry Stimson, the Secretary of War, defined the American soldier, and how that soldier should be, and I quote: "Brave without being brutal, self-confident without

boasting, being part of an irresistible might without losing faith in individual liberty."

The heroes of the Harbor engraved that passage on every heart and soul. They fought for a world of peace, not war, where children's dreams speak more loudly than the brashest tyrant's guns. Because of them, this memorial lives to pass its lessons from one generation to the next, lessons as clear as this Pacific sky.

One of Pearl Harbor's lessons is that together we could "summon lightness against the dark"; that was Dwight Eisenhower. Another, that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last.

World War II also taught us that isolationism is a bankrupt notion. The world does not stop at our water's edge. And perhaps above all, that real peace, real peace, the peace that lasts, means the triumph of freedom, not merely the absence of war.

And as we look down at—Barbara and I just did—at *Arizona*'s sunken hull, tomb to more than 1,000 Americans, the beguiling calm comforts us, reminds us of the might of ideals that inspire boys to die as men. Everyone who aches at their sacrifice knows America must be forever vigilant. And Americans must always remember the brave and the innocent who gave their lives to keep us free.

Each Memorial Day, not far from this spot, the heroes of Pearl Harbor are honored. Two leis are placed upon each grave by Hawaiian Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. We must never forget that it is for them, the future, that we must apply the lessons of the past.

In Pearl Harbor's wake, we won the war and, thus, the peace. In the cold war that followed, Americans also shed their blood, but we used other means as well. For nearly half a century, patience, foresight, personal diplomacy helped America stand fast and firm for democracy.

But we've never stood alone. Beside us stood nations committed to democracy and free markets and free expression and freedom of worship, nations that include our former enemies, Germany, Italy, and Japan. This year these same nations stood with us against aggression in the Persian Gulf.

You know, the war in the Gulf was so different: different enemy, different cir-

cumstances, the outcome never in doubt. It was short; thank God our casualties mercifully few. But I ask you veterans of Pearl Harbor and all Americans who remember the unity of purpose that followed that momentous December day 50 years ago: Didn't we see that same strength of national spirit when we launched Desert Storm?

The answer is a resounding "yes." Once the war for Kuwait began, we pulled together. We were united, determined, and we were confident. And when it was over, we rejoiced in exactly the same way that we did in 1945—heads high, proud, and grateful. And what a feeling. Fifty years had passed, but, let me tell you, the American spirit is as young and fresh as ever.

This unity of purpose continues to inspire us in the cause of peace among nations. In their own way, amidst the bedlam and the anguish of that awful day, the men of Pearl Harbor served that noble cause, honored it. They knew the things worth living for but also worth dying for: Principle, decency, fidelity, honor.

And so, look behind you at battleship row—behind me, the gun turret still visible, and the flag flying proudly from a truly blessed shrine.

Look into your hearts and minds: You will see boys who this day became men and men who became heroes.

Look at the water here, clear and quiet, bidding us to sum up and remember. One day, in what now seems another lifetime, it wrapped its arms around the finest sons any nation could ever have, and it carried them to a better world.

May God bless them. And may God bless America, the most wondrous land on Earth.

*Note: The President spoke at 8:10 a.m. from the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He was introduced by Captain Donald K. Ross, retired U.S. Navy, a surviving crewmember of the U.S.S. Nevada and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. During his remarks, the President referred to Admiral Charles Larson, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command. Following his remarks, the President met with survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack.*

## **Remarks to World War II Veterans and Families in Honolulu, Hawaii**

*December 7, 1991*

Mrs. Rickert, thank you for that wonderful tale of how it was at Hospital Point. Thank you for that warm and generous introduction. And now I have a favor to ask of you. I hope you and everyone else will take a deep breath for me too, please. [*Laughter*] You didn't need it, but I might; this is a very emotional day.

I would like to salute the members of my Cabinet that are here today, particularly Dick Cheney, our able Secretary of Defense who's done so much for the military, so much in terms of leadership for our Nation. I want to salute General Powell, the Chairman of our Joint Chiefs of Staff, and again take this opportunity on this historic day to thank him for his leadership, his inspirational leadership, for all the men and women that serve in the Armed Forces. I want to thank the commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet, Admiral Larson. And I especially want to single out all the fellow veterans here, particularly those who are the survivors, the survivors of this historic day.

I expect if we went around the room, all of us would remember. I remember exactly when I first heard the news about Pearl Harbor. I was 17 years old, walking across the green at school. And my thoughts in those days didn't turn to world events, but mainly to simpler things, more mundane things, like making the basketball team or entering college. And that walk across the campus marked an end of innocence for me.

When Americans heard the news, they froze in shock. But just as quickly we came together. Like all American kids back then, I was swept up in it. I decided that very day to go into the Navy to become a Navy pilot. And so on my 18th birthday, June 12th, 1942, I was sworn into the Navy as a seaman second class.

And I was shocked, I was shocked at my first sight of Pearl Harbor several months later, April of '44. We came into port on the CVL-30, on the carrier *San Jacinto*. Nearby, the *Utah* was still on her side; parts of the *Arizona* still stood silent in the water.



Everywhere the skeletons of ships reached out as if to demand remembrance and warn us of our own mortality.

Over 2,000 men died in a matter of minutes on this site, a half a century ago. Many more died that same day as Japanese forces assaulted the Philippines and Guam and Wake Island, Midway, Malaya, Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong. On that day of infamy, Pearl Harbor propelled each of us into a titanic contest for mankind's future. It galvanized the American spirit as never, ever before into a single-minded resolve that could produce only one thing: victory.

Churchill knew it as soon as he heard the news. He'd faced the Nazi conquest of Europe, the blitz of London, the terror of the U-boats. But when America was attacked, he declared there was "no more doubt about the end." He knew then that the American spirit would not fail the cause of freedom. The enemy mistook our diversity, our Nation's diversity, for weakness. But Pearl Harbor became a rallying cry for men and women from all walks of life, all colors and creeds. And in the end, this unity of purpose made us invincible in war and now makes us secure in peace.

The next day, President Roosevelt proclaimed the singular American objective: "With confidence in our Armed Forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph, so help us, God." It was the steadfastness of the American people that would "win the war" and "win the peace that follows."

We triumphed in both, despite the fact that the American people did not want to be drawn into the conflict; "the unsought war," it's been called. Ironically, isolationists gathered together at what was known in those days as an "American First" rally in Pittsburgh at precisely the moment the first Americans met early, violent deaths right here at Pearl Harbor. The isolationists failed to see that the seeds of Pearl Harbor were sown back in 1919, when a victorious America decided that in the absence of a threatening enemy abroad, we should turn all of our energies inward. That notion of isolationism flew escort for the very bombers that attacked our men 50 years ago.

Again, in 1945, some called for America's return to isolationism, as if abandoning world leadership was the prerequisite for

dealing with pressing matters back home. And they were rudely awakened by the brutal reality of the Iron Curtain, the Soviet blockade of Berlin, and the Communist invasion of South Korea.

And now we stand triumphant, for the third time this century, this time in the wake of the cold war. As in 1919 and 1945, we face no enemy menacing our security. And yet we stand here today on the site of a tragedy spawned by isolationism. And we must learn, and this time avoid, the dangers of today's isolationism and its economic accomplice, protectionism. To do otherwise, to believe that turning our backs on the world would improve our lot here at home, is to ignore the tragic lessons of the 20th century.

The fact is, this country has enjoyed its most lasting growth and security when we rejected isolationism, both political and economic, in favor of engagement and leadership. We're a Pacific nation. And next month in Asia, I'll discuss with our Pacific friends and allies their responsibility to share with us the challenges and burdens of leadership in the post-cold war world.

The time has come for America's trading partners, in Europe, Asia, and around the world, to resolve that economic isolationism is wrong. To the leaders of Japan in particular, I say: This solemn occasion should reinforce our determination to join together in a future energized by free markets and free people. And so I'll continue to speak out against the voices of isolationism and protectionism, both at home and abroad.

Fifty years ago, we paid a heavy price for complacency and overconfidence. That too is a lesson we shall never forget. To those who have defended our country, from the shores of Guadalcanal to the hills of Korea, from the jungles of Vietnam to the sands of Kuwait, I say this: We will always remember; we will always be prepared, prepared to take on aggression, prepared to step forward in reconciliation, and prepared to secure the peace.

In remembering, it is important to come to grips with the past. No nation can fully understand itself or find its place in the world if it does not look with clear eyes at all the glories and disgraces, too, of the past. We in the United States acknowledge such

an injustice in our own history: The internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry was a great injustice, and it will never be repeated.

Today, all Americans should acknowledge Japan's Prime Minister Miyazawa's national statement of deep remorse concerning the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was a thoughtful, it was a difficult expression much appreciated by the people of the United States of America.

The values we hold dear as a Nation—equality of opportunity, freedom of religion and speech and assembly, free and vigorous elections—are now revered by many nations. Our greatest victory in World War II took place not on the field of battle, but in nations we once counted as foes. The ideals of democracy and liberty have triumphed in a world once threatened with conquest by tyranny and despotism.

Today as we celebrate the world's evolution toward freedom, we commemorate democracy's fallen heroes, the defenders of freedom as well as the victims of dictatorship who never saw the light of liberty. Earlier this year, when former adversaries joined us in the stand against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we affirmed the values cherished by the heroes of the Harbor.

The friends I lost, that all of us lost, upheld a great and noble cause. Because of their sacrifice, the world now lives in greater freedom and peace than ever before. It is right that all of us are here today. And it is right that we go on from here.

As you know, I just paid my respects at the *Arizona*, where it all began. And behind us stands the *Missouri*, where it came to an end. But the *Missouri* was also a beginning. Soon after that, Emperor Hirohito went to call on General MacArthur, who later noted that the Emperor "played a major role in the spiritual regeneration of Japan." Their meeting made history, and a hopeful future for a democratic Japan began to take shape.

I thought of that meeting with MacArthur when I attended the Emperor's funeral in 1989. I thought of it this morning, too, at the National Cemetery of the Pacific and then at the *Arizona* Memorial.

As you look back on life and retrace the steps that made you the person you are, you pick out the turning points, the defining moments. Over the years, Pearl Harbor

still defines a part of who I am. To every veteran here, and indeed to all Americans, Pearl Harbor defines a part of who you are.

Recently a letter arrived from the son of a Pearl Harbor survivor, a Navy man named Bill Leu, who is with us here today. His son writes from his home, now in Tokyo, saying: "A half century ago, my father's thoughts were on surviving the attack and winning the war. He could not have envisioned a future where his son would study and work in Japan. But he recognizes that the world has changed, that America's challenges are different. My father's attitude represents that of the United States: Do your duty, and raise the next generation to do its."

I can understand Bill's feelings. I wondered how I'd feel being with you, the veterans of Pearl Harbor, the survivors, on this very special day. And I wondered if I would feel that intense hatred that all of us felt for the enemy 50 years ago. As I thought back to that day of infamy and the loss of friends, I wondered: What will my reaction be when I go back to Pearl Harbor? What will their reaction be, the other old veterans, especially those who survived that terrible day right here?

Well, let me tell you how I feel. I have no rancor in my heart towards Germany or Japan, none at all. And I hope, in spite of the loss, that you have none in yours. This is no time for recrimination.

World War II is over. It is history. We won. We crushed totalitarianism. And when that was done, we helped our enemies give birth to democracies. We reached out, both in Europe and in Asia. We made our enemies our friends, and we healed their wounds. And in the process, we lifted ourselves up.

The lessons of the war itself will live on, and well they should: Preparedness; strength; decency and honor; courage; sacrifice; the willingness to fight, even die, for one's country—America, the land of the free and the brave.

No, just speaking for one guy, I have no rancor in my heart. I can still see the faces of the fallen comrades, and I'll bet you can see the faces of your fallen comrades too, or family members. But don't you think they're saying, "Fifty years have passed; our

country is the undisputed leader of the free world, and we are at peace.”? Don’t you think each one is saying, “I did not die in vain.”?

May God bless each of you who sacrificed and served. And may God grant His loving protection to this, the greatest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America.

Thank you all, and God bless you. Thank you very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 9:20 a.m. from Kilo 8 Pier in Honolulu, Hawaii. He was introduced by Lenore Rickert, retired U.S. Navy nurse and a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack.*

### Remarks at Half-Time During the Army-Navy Football Game December 7, 1991

Well, first let me salute all that are there at that wonderful Army-Navy contest. I understand you have a great ballgame underway.

Over my shoulder, perhaps you can see the picture of *Arizona* where the war started, World War II, on December 7th, 50 years ago. And now I’m talking to you also from the deck of the *Missouri* where the war ended on September 2d, 1945. And I must tell you this has been a very emotional day for the survivors of Pearl Harbor. It’s an emotional day for those of us who served in World War II, and it’s an emotional day for our entire country.

I think it is not a day for hatred. I think it is not a day for rancor. I think it is a day for healing and looking forward. And because of the sacrifice of the people here at Pearl Harbor and others that followed, yesterday’s enemies are now our friends. Yesterday’s hatred has now given way to feelings of goodwill, partnership, friendly competition. And so it has been a moving day at Pearl Harbor. And I, as Commander in Chief of the forces, have been very proud to be here.

Let me wish all of you at that wonderful football game now the very best. And may I say to the men and women of the U.S.

Naval Academy and the Army of the West Point, thank you for your service to this, the greatest country on the face of the Earth. May God bless each and every one of you who served the United States of America. It is a special day, and all of you helped make it a special day.

Thank you so much.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:17 a.m. aboard the U.S.S. Missouri in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His remarks were broadcast live by the American Broadcasting Company during half-time of the Army-Navy football game. Keith Jackson of ABC-Sports introduced the President. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

### Interview With Charles Bierbauer of CNN at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii December 7, 1991

#### *Pearl Harbor*

**Q.** This is Charles Bierbauer with President Bush on board the deck of the U.S.S. *Missouri*.

**Mr. President,** thank you for joining us with the *Arizona* Memorial behind us. As you were there this morning, a day which you’ve described as a very emotional one, the sense of an apology from Japan for the events at Pearl Harbor, how necessary is that?

**The President.** I don’t think it’s necessary. The Prime Minister very forthrightly expressed either regrets or remorse. I can’t remember the word that was used. But this is a time for healing. This is a time for looking forward.

We won the war. We made a tremendous contribution to freedom by winning the war—war ending right on the decks of this very vessel. And this is not a time for re-crimination or rancor. And so my message is one of healing, of going forward—tough competitors, being tough in competition for business and markets, but not looking back in the sense of bitterness and hatred.

**Q.** And yet you’ve heard from many of the survivors a sense that they still—

**The President.** Yes.

**Q.**—perhaps have that rancor. Can this be a demarcation at this point?

**The President.** It should be a demarcation. It should be a turning forward. And I can understand the bitterness. What is it, a thousand sailors still there in that tomb? And dealing with those families today and meeting them was for me very, very emotional. But I really think this is a time to look forward. And I can say to them, I understand part of what you're going through. I lost a lot of fallen comrades, two roommates, many others. But this isn't the time for recrimination. And I don't think most of them feel that way. I think most of them say, look, my husband, my son, my grandfather did not die in vain.

#### **Anti-Japanese Sentiment**

**Q.** A few months ago when you met with then-Prime Minister Kaifu, he complained about Japan bashing, about feeling unappreciated over there. Why do you think that persists?

**The President.** Well, I complained a little bit about saying, "Hey, wait a minute, there's some Europe bashing in Japan." And I don't think it should exist in either country. And there's some nationalists there that feel bitter about the United States. And there's people in our country that feel bitter about Japan and bash Japan—in other words, instead of trying to compete better, try to take it out on Japan.

I don't know why it is. I hope it is not based on bigotry or some racial concept on either side of the Pacific.

**Q.** Do you think it could be?

**The President.** I hope not, and I don't want to say that. But we all know that back in the days of World War II there was such a feeling. I was there. I was a young man then, and I remember it. But that's not the case today. And I'm not saying there's no residues of that nature, but if it is, we ought to speak out against it. This is the time for fair competition, and I'm going to take that message to Japan. Fair, free markets, but they've got to be fair. And let's do business on that basis with respect. Let's recognize that we've come together since the war.

They're democratic now. They were totalitarian and imperialists back then. And so we shouldn't be recriminatory.

#### **Trade With Japan**

**Q.** You will be in Japan in the beginning of January.

**The President.** Yes.

**Q.** Does the message go beyond that? Are you at a point where you can break this logjam on trade?

**The President.** I hope so. I'm not sure where the logjam—there are some things that are moving; there are some things that we feel we've been stonewalled on, to be very candid. And I'm going to take a good, tough message out there. And I expect they will level with me where they feel we have been discriminatory or being two-sided, say one thing and do something else.

But that's the way we ought to do business, look them in the eye and say, "Now, wait a minute, you can't have a one-way street. We want access to your markets." But it shouldn't be based on what happened here 50 years ago with some vestiges of discrimination or recrimination.

#### **Relations With Asian Nations**

**Q.** Mr. President, a lot of people seem to think that our relations with the Asian countries, Japan among them, have been based for the last several decades on a circling of the Soviet Union, a containment of the Soviet Union. You don't have a Soviet Union to contain anymore in the same sense. How does that change your relationship with Asia?

**The President.** I don't really feel that our relationship with the Asian countries or Japan is based on this concept of encirclement. I feel that it should be based on expanding markets, and expanding markets means more jobs for the people in the United States. So Pacific countries are our biggest trading partners. So I don't think it's based, that we ever based our relationship with those countries on trying to encircle the Soviet Union. They might have felt that way—the old Soviet Union.

But I don't think today anybody feels that our reaching out to Japan or our being with Japan or Japan standing with us in the war against Japan is because of encircling the Soviet Union. I think it's much more sophisticated than that, much more forward-looking than that, and much more positive in terms of the benefits to the American

people, provided we can do better in getting the access to the markets that I think we must have.

*Q.* Mr. President, thank you very much for joining us here on the U.S.S. *Missouri*.

*The President.* Some beautiful day out here.

*Q.* It's a very beautiful day. Thank you.

*The President.* Thank you, sir.

*Note: The interview began at 10:26 a.m. aboard the U.S.S. Missouri. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.*

### Remarks at a Briefing by the National Commission on AIDS

December 9, 1991

Lou, thank you. And let me just thank Dr. Rogers and Dr. Osborn and, of course, all the members of the AIDS Commission. And let me tell them that I have great confidence in the professionals in this Government, from Dr. Sullivan on, the people out at NIH, Dr. Roper, and so many others that are working these problems.

And when you have something as devastating and as scary as AIDS, I'm not sure that our people that are working with such compassion and such caring get the proper credit. They're not in it for credit; they're in it for trying to do something for humanity. And if I've ever seen a dedicated group of professionals, I think they're sitting right around this table.

Lou, I want to thank you for assembling the team. Dr. Mason, of course, we're going to hear from him; Tony Fauci, we know how inspirational he's been; our Surgeon General; head of NIH, Dr. Healy; and I don't want to leave out my former White House associate who's now branched off into a new setting down there in Atlanta.

But no, we've got good people working it. I think nobody ever has the total amount of resource to bring to bear on a problem, and yet I noted with interest what you said in terms of the levels of funding. And I'm very anxious to hear from everybody. I, too, would like to pay my respects to Belinda Mason and also Kimberly.

But this is a tragic disease, and it is something that I'd like to find ways to be helpful as President. In addition to the professional aspects of all of this, I'd like to think that there are some suggestions coming out of this as to what we might be able to do to be of more help from the White House. I'd like to do it. Barbara, of course, feels the same way. When she hugs those children, I think it sends the proper message around the country. And I'll never forget visits that Tony and others out there arranged for me quite a few months ago now, but it was terribly moving. And some have suggested that in some way it might have been helpful.

But all I'm saying here to you who are giving so much of your lives and your love and care to this, we do want to do what we can to help. And I think we've got a good program going, but I'd like to have the critique of that now from any—I don't know whether you've got this all set up in an orderly Sullivan manner, or are we just dealer's choice here?

*Note: The President spoke at 11:42 a.m. at the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, DC. In his remarks, he referred to Dr. June E. Osborne, Chair, and Dr. David E. Rogers, Vice Chair of the Commission; Dr. William L. Roper, Director of the Centers for Disease Control; Dr. James O. Mason, Assistant Secretary for Health, Public Health Service; and Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, Associate Director for AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health. The President also mentioned AIDS victims Kimberly Bergalis and Belinda Mason, a former member of the Commission.*

### Remarks on Signing the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991

December 9, 1991

Let me just thank you all for coming today. And I'm pleased to sign into law the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991. This will implement the far-reaching initiatives on information technologies proposed

to Congress in my fiscal year 1992 budget earlier this year.

I'd like to thank Director Darman; my science advisor Dr. Bromley; Secretary Watkins and Secretary Mosbacher; Chairman Boskin and Dick Truly, Administrator Truly; Roger Porter; Director Massey, who are with us today. And I'd like also to thank Secretaries Cheney and Alexander who couldn't be with us today, and Bill Reilly, also missing, but all of them playing an instrumental part in all of this. And then all of the other members of the administration that helped develop this initiative and secure enactment of this historic bill.

The development of high-performance computing and communications technology offers the potential to transform radically the way in which all Americans will work, learn, and communicate in the future. It holds the promise of changing society as much as the other great inventions of the 20th century, including the telephone, air travel, and radio and TV.

This program will help researchers meet the grand challenges in science: To unlock the secrets of DNA, to forecast severe weather events, and to discover new superconducting materials.

It is no surprise that America holds the lead in high-performance information technology. Our greatest technological strides have been made possible by the unique qualities of American society: Freedom, innovation, entrepreneurial spirit, a combination found nowhere else in the world. And this program will sustain and extend that leadership position.

The high-performance computing initiative is part of an overall strategy, advanced by this administration to enhance our competitiveness. My \$76 billion R&D budget proposal for this year included increased investment in both basic research and in additional key areas of applied research, such as material science, advance manufacturing, biotechnology, and energy-related R&D.

In addition to these critical investments in R&D, we've been working to prepare America to compete in the next century by opening up foreign markets to U.S. export through a new GATT round and a North American free-trade agreement, proposing tax policies, such as making permanent R&D tax credit, and reducing taxes on cap-

ital gains to promote long-term investment, and preparing our work force to compete through sharp increases in funding for math and science education and through our America 2000 broad reform initiative.

The initiative involves eight Federal agencies, all of which would contribute to development of this new technology, and would share in its benefits. Private industry will work closely with Federal agencies and labs in the planning, funding, and management of this initiative to ensure that the fruits of this research program will be brought into the educational and commercial marketplaces just as soon as possible.

The high-performance computing initiative is an excellent example of the philosophy of this administration: To invest in the future, to create new jobs and new opportunities for sustained economic growth. It is also an excellent example of how Government, industry, and academia can work together to develop new and important technologies.

And so, once again, welcome. And with that, it gives me great pleasure now to sign this legislation which will benefit Americans today and on into the next century.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:31 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. S. 272, approved December 9, was assigned Public Law No. 102-194.*

**Statement on Signing Legislation To Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Native American Cultural Center**  
*December 9, 1991*

Today I am signing into law H.R. 3370, an Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study and make recommendations to the Congress regarding the feasibility of establishing a Native American cultural center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

I am signing this bill notwithstanding a provision that purports to require the Secretary of the Interior to report the results of a certain study together with his "recommendations" to the Congress. Were this

provision construed to require an executive branch officer to submit legislative recommendations to the Congress, it would be constitutionally objectionable. Because Article II, section 3 of the Constitution vests the President with exclusive authority to decide whether and when the executive branch should propose legislation, this provision will be construed as only advisory and not requiring legislative recommendations.

George Bush

The White House,  
December 9, 1991.

*Note: H.R. 3370, approved December 9, was assigned Public Law No. 102-196.*

**Proclamation 6390—Human Rights Day, Bill of Rights Day, and Human Rights Week, 1991**  
*December 9, 1991*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

When the Federal Convention ended in September 1787 and our Constitution was presented to the States for ratification, it was hailed by many as a triumph for liberty and self-government. "The Constitution," wrote Thomas Jefferson, "is unquestionably the wisest ever yet presented to men." Still, he and others voiced concern that it did not contain a declaration enumerating the rights of individuals. To Jefferson such a declaration was "what no just government should refuse or rest on inferences."

Opponents to the idea argued that a bill of rights would be unnecessary and perhaps even harmful, should it invite disregard for any rights that were not expressly stated. In their view, the Constitution that began with the words "We the People" clearly affirmed the sovereignty of the American public. But Jefferson and others persisted, noting that a declaration of rights would serve "as a supplement to the Constitution where that is silent." James Madison conceded that such a declaration might prove valuable because "political truths declared in that solemn

manner acquire by degrees the character of fundamental maxims of free government." Today his words seem prophetic.

Our Bill of Rights guarantees, among other basic liberties, freedom of speech and of the press, as well as freedom of religion and association; it recognizes the right to keep and bear arms; and it prohibits unreasonable search and seizure of a person's home, papers, or possessions. The Bill of Rights also states that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law and establishes fundamental rules of fairness in judicial proceedings, including the right to trial by jury. Since it was ratified on December 15, 1791, the principles enshrined in this great document have not only served as the guiding tenets of American government but also inspired the advance of freedom around the globe.

When it adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations affirmed for all humankind the ideals enshrined in our Bill of Rights. Noting that "human rights should be protected by the rule of law," and describing the Declaration as "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations," signatories agreed to respect freedom of thought, freedom of conscience, as well as freedom of religion and belief. They declared that "everyone has the right to life, liberty, and the security of person," and they recognized that all human beings are entitled to equal protection of the law. Signatories to the Declaration also recognized an individual's right to participate in the government of his or her country, either directly or through freely chosen representatives.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights reasserted what we Americans have always believed: that recognition of these rights "is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world." This ideal was reaffirmed and strengthened in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and more recently in the 1990 Charter of Paris.

Today we stand closer than ever to achieving universal compliance with the letter and spirit of international human

rights agreements. Two hundred years after the ratification of our Bill of Rights, the principles it enshrines continue to take root around the world.

Having triumphed over communism, many peoples and nations now confront the challenge of improving respect for human rights among various ethnic and religious groups, as well as members of national minorities. The United States will continue to urge these and all nations to abide by international human rights agreements and to act in the spirit of political pluralism and tolerance—traditions that have made America's diversity a source of pride and strength.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, 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 December 10, 1991, as Human Rights Day and December 15, 1991, as Bill of Rights Day and call upon all Americans to observe the week beginning December 10, 1991, as Human Rights Week.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 5:01 p.m., December 9, 1991]

*Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on December 11.*

### Remarks to the Chicago Board of Trade in Chicago, Illinois December 10, 1991

Thank you, Billy and thank you, Tom. Listen, it's a great pleasure to be with all of you. And standing next to me is a guy who most of you know, son of Illinois, Ed Madigan, the Secretary of Agriculture, doing a great job.

Listen, we wanted to come by and see this great market. And all of you ought to

know that, around the world, people are trying as they come out from behind that Iron Curtain to emulate the market here, free trading in a very, very important area. And you are doing more for agriculture and for business, and we are very, very grateful to you.

Let me just say a word. I am not happy, and nor is anybody, with the state of the economy. We want to see it moving. We want to see it growing. And I will gather up the best ideas I can between now and the time that the Congress comes back, try to lay partisan politics aside, and get this country moving by a strong growth package that was long overdue.

The current performance of this economy is unacceptable; growth is too slow. But there are some encouraging signs: Interest rates are down, mortgage interest rates, inflation seems to be holding down. And now, we've just got to give it a kick and get it started up again. And I'm grateful to all of you for the example you've set. And now I guess we have about 6 minutes, but I want to see this place spring into action. Maybe I can learn a few new hand gestures.

Thank you all. God bless you, and God bless the United States.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:23 a.m. from the soybean pit of the Chicago Board of Trade. In his remarks, he referred to William F. O'Connor, chairman, and Thomas F. Donovan, president and chief executive officer of the Chicago Board of Trade.*

### Remarks to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in Chicago, Illinois December 10, 1991

Thank you all very much. And Jack, thank you, sir, for that more-than-generous introduction. To Bill Brodsky, my thanks to you, sir, for arranging all of this, coming from Wall Street to Chicago, as you have. I'm delighted to be with you. To Leo, Leo Melamed, the Babe Ruth of the exchange, I want to thank him. And, of course, salute two others with me, your great Governor, my friend Jim Edgar, and Ed Madigan, who is our new—former Illinois Congressman,



and now our able Secretary of Agriculture, who is up to his eyeballs in working with us to try to make a successful conclusion to this GATT round. And he's knocking himself out, crossing the Atlantic Ocean back and forth, but we couldn't have a better Secretary of Agriculture trying to open up these foreign markets to our agricultural products. Ed, thank you.

And I thought Jim Thompson was going to be with us, but maybe he's not that brave, a member of the Board of Trade and a lawyer. *[Laughter]* But he was here, and I salute him, a longtime friend.

Jack mentioned the visit to the trading floor, and I do want to thank everyone involved in that trip through that melee for their warmth of the reception and the—I thought it would be pretty hard to match the emotion of last weekend out there in Pearl Harbor, but I'll tell you, this was a little different. Younger kids, all—there were a few old guys down there—*[laughter]*—but I'm talking about enthusiasm and the future. And it was a wonderfully inspiring trip through that floor, and I want to thank those of you who were here that participated in that and everybody else responsible for that visit. Thank you very, very much.

It's great to be back here and to have a chance to visit briefly with the leaders of the business community and leaders of this exchange. As you know, we've had a staff change at the White House, a new Chief of Staff coming there. And when John Sununu resigned, I looked to Chicago, I looked to the Windy City for help, for another sound manager, communicator, and consummate politician. Well, Mike Ditka was busy with other responsibilities—*[laughter]*—and Sam Skinner, though, rose to the fore. And I think we're going to have a very good operation with your friend and mine, Sam, who did a great job as Secretary of Transportation, now in this new, key place as we move into a new year.

I've really enjoyed my visits here to both exchanges today, the board and then here. I've seen the future. It uses hand signals, at least for now. *[Laughter]* But then, I've also glimpsed at the fact that that's also changing. Speaking of hand signals, I saw a few riding in here. *[Laughter]* They have a nice way here of making one feel at home.

*[Laughter]* No, actually it's been very, very friendly.

But I really enjoyed the tour downstairs, and I also have been looking forward to this part of the program, here on the upper floor, the futures market of the future, I think we really can peek into the next century. Soon, probably sooner than you expect, this area will be as packed and busy as the trading pits below.

The Merc has become a bellwether of the future because it never, ever lost the inventive spirit of its founders. You defied the doomsayers when you pioneered that risk-pool management through the Exchange Trust. You established the first financial futures market, the International Monetary Market. You saw an international marketplace and established overseas offices before most exchanges even thought of setting up domestic branches. And you created Euro-dollar Futures a decade ago, and I know you celebrated its 10th anniversary yesterday. And you should be very, very proud of this world leadership.

In challenging times, you've thrived. And this year, you trimmed expenses to improve efficiency, and your business grew by more than 4 percent, I'm told. Through the ups and downs of the business cycle, you've operated without requiring a dime's worth of assistance from the American taxpayer. And you've taken care of your own without losing your momentum for a single minute.

It's great to be here—I mentioned him earlier—with Leo Melamed whom, I suppose, you call the father of the future. And now, you all know of his professional accomplishments, but he never left his imagination at the office. As many of you know, he has also written prodigiously. His greatest triumph was the science fiction thriller "The Tenth Planet." It's not about Capitol Hill; it is another science fiction thriller.

Sometimes, though, debates on Capitol Hill about the economy sound as if they were about life on another planet. And you know, an economy does not run just on money. An economy lives and breathes on ideas and information.

Entrepreneurs like the men and women who trade in the Merc's pits, the farmers who work the fields by day and the computers by night, arbitrageurs in London,

and investors the world over, these people swap ideas, information, dreams, and dares, and they fire an economy. Their energy drives our Nation forward. They chart the course through the international marketplace.

A government that does not understand the gritty fundamentals of business cannot understand how to help an economy grow. Ten years ago, many of you stood with us as the Reagan-Bush administration took on the old wisdom that government could solve everything and that business could flourish regardless of what burdens Washington heaped upon it. We cut the taxes and peeled away regulations, restrained spending, promoted free trade. And out of that came the longest peacetime economic expansion in the history of this country. While others may have sat back to enjoy their new prosperity, you were a driving dynamic here. You moved forward.

You've stood with my administration as we work to create the conditions for a more vibrant economy. I've asked Congress for 3 years to pass a series of growth initiatives, job-creating initiatives. And the economy has turned sluggish. People want action. And I want action, action to help people, action to make things better now and in the future.

And our administration believes as you do that the solution lies in free markets for free people. We've promoted straightforward measures to invigorate the economy, such as cuts in the capital gains tax; banking reform, inclusive banking reform legislation; letting first-time homebuyers use these IRA's for purchasing homes; a permanent tax credit for R&D, for research and development, and so on.

We pushed other initiatives to make the most of our human capital now and in the future: A revolution, for example, in American education; a tough crime package to back up the police officers that we are supported by every single day of our lives; a tort reform bill up there that will put some caps on some of these mindlessly high settlements that are driving much of the industry to its knees; and recently, a transportation bill that will create jobs and provide much needed repair for our roads and bridges and infrastructure.

And, again, I salute Sam Skinner for his leadership as our Secretary of Transportation on this important job-creating legislation.

Although both political parties will feel tempted to engage in partisan warfare when Congress comes back in January, reconvenes, I will be calling upon the Democrats and the Republicans to lay partisanship aside long enough to pass a clear, strong growth package. We owe it to the taxpayer; we owe it to those who have jobs, and we owe it to those who don't have jobs to get that done regardless of politics. And I'm going to do that, no matter that 1992 is a Presidential election year.

And I might say, being in his hometown, I can work with Dan Rostenkowski, your friend and mine, who is chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. And if we had more like him I believe we could have gotten these problems solved long, long ago.

In the post-cold war world—and you've set the example on this one—we must thrive in the international marketplace. I am going to be meeting this weekend with President Salinas. And I know he was up visiting you all earlier this year. And the two of us are going to discuss trade matters in detail. And later this month I will promote free and fair trade—read that, jobs—with our allies in Japan and South Korea and Singapore, and also going down to Australia. Free and fair trade means more jobs for Americans.

And we must not pull back into some isolationistic sphere listening to the siren's call of "America first." I learned that lesson as a young kid just at the beginning of World War II, and I don't want to see this country go back to "America first" and protection. That will shrink markets and throw people out of work. And we need to stand together against that call from the left and against that call from the right to stay within ourselves. We owe the world leadership, and they're going to get it from this President.

You know, the allegation is that I spend a lot of time on foreign affairs. I take great pride in some of the accomplishments we've made. I think America came together at Desert Storm, and we found a new sense

of confidence, a new spirit as a Nation. And I'm not going to back away from that. I am proud that we're bringing parties that have stood at each other's throats for years, bringing them together in the Middle East to talk some peace. I'm proud of the way we've handled the evolution in the Soviet Union. And right today it is extraordinarily complicated.

But my point is, we cannot withdraw, we can't pull back. You can't do it. You're engaged in the markets, and well you should be, because that offers prosperity to the American people as well as to others. And I don't think a President should pull back in the face of domestic criticism by some partisans suggesting that we don't have to worry about our national security and that we don't see that jobs stem from being engaged with foreign countries, instead of being pulled back from engagement with foreign countries.

So, I can do both. We can stay involved, work for world peace, enhance our national security, and now drive forward to get this economy moving by bipartisan action for growth, economic growth that means jobs for the American people.

Years ago, Carl Sandburg described this city as "the hog butcher for the world." That was the Chicago of another era, another world. And today, Chicago serves the pork belly's future, the currency's future, the future, period, of an international marketplace. And the one message I'd like to come out of this meeting here today and the other meetings I've had is that we are the hub of the international market. And countries that are emerging into democracy are looking to us for leadership in terms of making world markets. And nobody does it any better than the people right here in this room.

Thank you very, very much. And now get back to work and help us shape another American century. Thank you all. I'm glad to be with you.

*Note: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. following a tour of the trading floor. In his remarks, he referred to John F. Sandner, chairman of the board of governors of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange; William J. Brodsky, president and chief executive officer of the exchange; and Leo Melamed,*

*chairman emeritus of the exchange and chairman of the Globex Corp. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

## **Remarks to the Illinois Farm Bureau in Chicago, Illinois**

*December 10, 1991*

Thank you, John, and to all the members, thank you. Thank you, John White, Governor Edgar, and to Secretary Madigan, son of Illinois, who is doing a superb job as our Secretary of Agriculture. I'm glad he flew out here with us. To Congressman Ewing, who will be flying back with us, I understand, on Air Force One back to Washington. We've welcomed him to the Congress and proud he's there. To Enid Schlipf, who has been at my side today, and I'm grateful for that, his counsel. We had a session, a listening session, getting counsel from business people, and it was most appropriate that Messrs. White and Schlipf were there.

And to all of you ladies and gentlemen of the Illinois Farm Bureau, thank you for that warm reception and for your hospitality. I feel that I've come to the right place. My top priority is to get this country moving faster and more confidently on the path of economic progress.

I've had excellent visits this morning on the trading floors at the Merc and at the Board of Trade. I lost 3 pounds in the process just kind of working my way through those hand signals. And it was wonderful. And I had the privilege to have both John and Enid, who are leaders of the Farm Bureau, at my side during those sessions and also, at Billy Goat's—[laughter]—I think you guys were up there. It's a marvelous burger place here. But speaking of farming, let me give you a little bit of historical trivia that will not send you into euphoria, but I always try to claim kinship with various States. And my great-grandfather, David Walker, grew up on a farm near Bloomington, Illinois. How about that one? Nobody's ever heard that before.

But anyway, meeting with so many Illinois farmers and agribusiness leaders, I've had a chance to talk face to face with some

men and women who are leading the way. You see, agriculture is a perennial export leader, and recently exports have been a tremendous factor, a big factor in our overall economic growth. And here's how important that is: Every billion dollars in agricultural exports means approximately 25,000 American jobs.

American farmers understand how the world works. You know that taking a stand for peace and stability abroad, supporting emerging democracies, developing free and fair international markets, will make our national economy much stronger. You know what a determined American involvement in global trade represents to the bottom line. It means higher net farm income.

So first, I really wanted to thank, enthusiastically give thanks for the Farm Bureau's efforts to keep America a leader in world commerce and world security. I know I speak for several hundred thousand young service men and women in saying thank you for all your support during Desert Shield and thank you for all your support during Desert Storm. We are very, very grateful.

The Farm Bureau's leadership is vital to our progress for free and fair trade, no mistake about it. You made a big contribution to getting the North American free trade talks off and running. You've helped launch our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative for trade and investment throughout the Western Hemisphere. I can assure you, because of your foresight, we can look forward to unprecedented prosperity and economic security for hundreds of millions of North and South Americans from the Illinois prairies to the pampas of the Argentine.

Secretary Madigan and Ambassador Carla Hills are working to secure a solid agreement for global trade at the Uruguay round of the GATT negotiations. A successful GATT negotiation will literally revolutionize world agriculture trade, opening markets and leveling the playing field for American exports. When we achieve this, we will owe an incalculable debt to the Farm Bureau who has always looked ahead and never looked back on this important question of international trade.

And I might say, John, you're quite a contrast, this marvelous organization, to the noisy voices that want to withdraw us into

isolationism and protectionism. They say they want to put "America first." You have the common sense to recognize that America is first and will remain first only if we stay engaged in world markets and involved in world security. And as long as I am President, that's exactly what I intend to do.

American agriculture is productive and competitive because of its strong orientation to free markets. Our agriculture owes much to such fundamentals as advancing productivity, embracing new technologies, moving forward to new frontiers in scientific research.

Rural America is a model of strength on social issues that are vital to our future. Thank God that family and family values remain so important to agricultural America. Farm communities, let's face it, they face many hardships. But they always involve parents in the schools, and that always produces better students. With programs such as 4-H and FFA, Future Farmers of America, rural America takes a leading role in our America 2000 strategy to revolutionize, literally revolutionize our education.

I can't tell you how impressed I am also at how much most farmers know about computers, not speaking for all of you, I understand, but some of you. But I've had enough trouble just finding the "on" switch on my computer, say nothing of getting the cursor to move where and when I want it to. But the point is this, anyone who doesn't appreciate the sophistication of the modern farmer doesn't understand the modern farmer.

Last month, by the way—maybe some of you all were out there—but I spoke to 18,000 of our best and brightest kids at the Future Farmers of America convention in Kansas City. And let me tell you, I can't contain my excitement thinking about the day when those young men and women become the leaders of our country. They were bright and alert and patriotic and forward-looking. And somebody, parents in this room and across agricultural America are doing a wonderful job with these young men and women.

The guy that introduced me was so good, I thought he was getting ready to run against me. [Laughter] But anyway, you

should have heard him. He's a real articulate dude.

Another concern I know you share with me is the drug problem. The stakes here involve not just the economy but our deepest social and moral well-being. Wherever I go in this country, I call attention to those who fight the drug war on the front lines. I praise the businessmen and women who keep drugs out of their companies and the neighborhood youth centers that keep teenagers off the streets. So, let me take this opportunity right now to thank hundreds and thousands of Americans who don't get mentioned often enough for their devotion in running the strongest kind of drug-free workplaces. And I'm referring, again, to the moms and the dads and the grandparents who run America's family farms.

Now, I know that sometimes times are tough for America's farmer. And that's why we stand by our commitment to help ease the pain caused by natural disasters. This week I will be signing legislation to provide drought and disaster relief. Many farmers in Illinois and other States suffered unusually severe losses this year and last year. And this legislation will provide much-needed assistance for hard-hit farmers. And I will be delighted to sign it.

Now, I know that the economic downturn is hurting a lot of people in virtually every sector. And I've heard from some tough, optimistic people on my visit just today, but they didn't sugarcoat their message about the pain and the problems the country is going through right now.

You and I know that we've got to do more to get the economy on the move, to get confidence back. And I'm prepared to fight harder than ever for a series of growth initiatives. And when Members of Congress go back to work in January, after Christmas, they'll hear from me in no uncertain terms. My growth initiatives will give Americans the freedom and incentive to get higher yields from their efforts. A top priority, and John referred to this, is to cut capital gains taxes. I know it's a top priority of the Farm Bureau, too, and I want to express my deep thanks for your outstanding support on this initiative.

Our high taxes, then, on capital gains are way out of line with the policies in other successful economies. Germany has no cap-

ital gains, no tax on capital gains on assets held longer than 6 months. In Japan, an entrepreneur who sells the company that he's built from scratch pays a tax of 1 percent. A capital gains tax cut will free up the capital that we need for growth. And it will increase the value of land, of labor and capital all at once by reducing the tax on success. And I am going to keep on fighting until we get that done.

Right now, we place entrepreneurs in a lose-lose situation. When they risk money and effort on something that fails, they lose. And when they risk money on a winner, we tax the capital gain, and they lose again. We have to put an end to this lose-lose approach to the economy. A capital gains cut will stimulate investment and create jobs in every sector. And quite frankly, it will restore some fundamental fairness to the way we treat farmers and the way we treat homeowners.

Capital gains tax relief is but a part of our program. Thanks to leadership from Illinois' own Sam Skinner, our soon-to-be Chief of Staff, I expect soon to sign a transportation bill that creates new jobs while rebuilding our roads and bridges. And I'm working for a research tax credit to help new technologies create more jobs; working for new IRA's to help the first-time homebuyer, stimulate that homebuilding market; and for bank reform. We desperately need comprehensive bank reform to help America compete in the 21st century and to help free up capital right now.

We want our children's future to be worthy of the dreams and sacrifices that built and sustained America as a great Nation. Back in 1862, in spite of his preoccupation with the Civil War, our President established back then the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Abraham Lincoln revered the American farmer. He believed deeply and stated eloquently that a strong American agriculture was the key to preserving our Nation's independence.

A century and a quarter later, the men and women of Illinois ag are worthy heirs to Lincoln's vision. You and this organization form a vital force for keeping America strong and free. And I am looking forward to seeing some of you, many of you maybe, next month at the American Farm Bureau

national convention out in Kansas City. And I am delighted to be with you today. And I am proud to work with you to help keep this great country of ours growing and thriving. I pledge to you I will do my level best to lead this country to new growth and new opportunity.

May God bless you and may God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:45 p.m. at the Palmer House Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to John White, Jr., and Enid Schlipf, president and former vice president, respectively, of the Illinois Farm Bureau.*

## Exchange With Reporters in the Cabinet Room

December 11, 1991

### Soviet Union

*Q.* Mr. President, who is in charge in the Soviet Union at this point?

*The President.* Well, we're following that situation very closely in the Soviet Union. And of course, our main interest is in democratic and market reform, the continuation of that. They are going to sort these matters out themselves. We will support democrat and—reformers wherever they are there. And that means at all levels, incidentally.

So, we are watching it very closely. And as these dramatic changes take place or proposals come forward, that's a matter for the Republics and the center to sort out. I think the answer to that question, you've just got to look at where you're talking about. So, we'll let that evolve.

I'll be meeting this afternoon with the Secretary and our Ambassador and be talking about Jim's upcoming trip, the reasons that are clearly of vital interest to us. One, we want this humanitarian question, humanitarian aid, to go forward in order to promote peaceful reform. That's a question—besides that, we've got just a plain interest in seeing that people are fed. Ed Madigan and I were talking about this yesterday on the way to Chicago.

And then, of course, we have a keen interest, the whole world does, in the nuclear questions there. And frankly, assurances have been pretty good there. I see no reason to alarm the American people, but it's something that we're following extraordinarily closely, and we are in touch. And I feel that the thing to do now is just to go forward with the plan of the Secretary and see where it comes out.

But we can't make any predictions on the evolution of all of this. That's their business. Our interests are as I stated in here: Democracy, market reform, humanitarian assistance, the nuclear question, and peace, peaceful evolution of all of this.

### Capital Gains Tax Cut

*Q.* Mr. President, you made clear yesterday you're going to keep fighting for a capital gains tax cut—

*The President.* Yes. I will keep on fighting—

*Q.* Are you going to, have you got any other—

*The President.* —for that. But now we've got to get to work in the Cabinet, so thank you.

*Q.* But, sir, do you have any other ideas to jumpstart the economy?

*The President.* We'll be talking about that, as I said yesterday—at the time I said yesterday, too. So, we'll just keep working on it.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:35 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of State James A. Baker III and Robert S. Strauss, U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.*

## Remarks at a Fundraising Luncheon for Senator Frank H. Murkowski

December 11, 1991

Frank, thank you, and good luck. Thank you for that very nice welcome. To you all assembled, my thanks to you. And, Nancy, Barbara and I send our very best wishes, not just for the holiday season but for what's over the horizon for you and that

wonderful family. And let me just say good morning, early morning, or breakfast time, to our supporters joining us through the magic of television, all Frank's friends up there in Anchorage with Senator Ted Stevens, our great leader up there who is doing a wonderful job side by side with Frank in Fairbanks; Mr. Richard Wien, who I understand is connected to this, and so I salute you, sir, and all assembled. And thank you for your work on this.

And good afternoon, of course, to our friends here in Washington. I'm told that Ed Derwinski was to be here. I saw Senator Strom Thurmond; Kit Bond is to be here, Senator from Missouri; Larry Craig, another great Senator; and, of course, standing at my left, and chairman of this event, the indefatigable and wonderful Lod Cook, to whom we are all very, very grateful.

I had a chance to greet some of you all, and I know that many of you have traveled from all corners of America—New York and California well represented and, of course, Alaska—just to be here. And to anyone here that I've missed, warm greetings to you. Let me salute the marvelous music we had earlier on, and I just wish you all the greatest for Christmas.

May I say to all of you that your support means an awful lot. It means a great deal to Frank. He's touched, and I'm sure you've been touched, too. *[Laughter]* But it is very important that this man be reelected. And I'm here today saluting what I think is one of our essential key members of the team up there on Capitol Hill. He is a public servant—and Lod put it well—dedicated to the people of his State. He never forgot how he got sent here to Washington, DC, and he is a leader that is constantly looking forward, helping us try to find ways to build a better America. So, the people of Alaska are fortunate, and the people of this country are fortunate to have Senator Frank Murkowski in the United States Senate, and please keep him there.

We need him. We need him in the Senate. And we need more people in Congress like Frank, men and women who believe in growth and opportunity for all Americans, elected leaders who are committed to excellence at home and then are fighting for this competitiveness abroad. And I need more Republicans in Congress,

and we need to keep the good ones there that we've already got.

He just came back, as he mentioned in his opening remarks, from Taiwan, Korea, Japan, where he did reach agreement to end this driftnet fishing. Took a leadership role there, took on what was considered an extraordinarily tough problem, and of enormous help in getting it resolved.

As vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and as ranking member of the East Asian and Pacific Foreign Relations Subcommittee, he understands, he understands far better than most, that we are a Pacific Nation. Alaska is a Pacific State. We have all these other events unfolding all around the world, in Eastern Europe, in the Middle East, in South America, all of them positive, I might add. But we must never forget that we are a Pacific power. Our largest trading partners, in total, are in the Pacific area, the Pacific Rim.

Last week—and it was emotional—I went out to Pearl Harbor to commemorate that "Day of Infamy" in 1941. And sadly, Pearl Harbor was a tragedy brought about by the folly of isolationism. Today's neoisolationism and then its economic accomplice, protectionism, are just as dangerous today as they were some 50 years ago.

The fact is, this country has enjoyed its most lasting growth and economic opportunity and security, I might add, when we rejected isolationism, both political and economic, in favor of engagement and leadership. We are, then, a Pacific Nation. Next month in Asia, and I'm looking forward to this, I'll discuss with some of our Pacific friends and allies their responsibility to share with us the challenges and burden of leadership in the post-cold war world.

In today's world, American lives and American jobs, our prosperity, our security, depend on our ability to compete and to lead. That's why I am looking forward to this trip, and we are determined to go there, do what Frank has been doing as your Alaskan Senator: To help open up new markets for American products and create new opportunities for American workers. The answer isn't to turn inward, it's to extend our opportunities outward.

We feel the benefits of foreign trade here at home, particularly in Alaska with its ex-

ports of timber and fish and coal. It is important to acknowledge that last year alone, the total gross exports accounted for virtually all of the economic growth in the country. So with a sluggish economy, we will continue to do all we can to reach out and expand our overseas markets.

Speaking of our economy, certainly we all know that some people are having a rough go of it, a tough time. I see that message in letters, and I hear it in conversations in the communities I visit. While Congress is home for the holidays, they'll be hearing that same message. And I hope they listen closely. Because when I give the State of the Union Address before Congress in January, I will ask them to put politics aside and come together and take some very important steps for growth and opportunity. We've sent up three different economic growth packages in the last 3 years, but I intend now to propose a new economic growth package to get this economy moving. I believe Congress will act. I know leaders like Frank Murkowski will be at my side on this, but I believe Congress will act. I think the American people want us to get the job done. They don't care who gets credit. They're tired of the bickering. Let's get on with it.

Among the most important elements of what we've tried to get acted upon these last 3 years is our plan to boost American competitiveness through initiatives like our America 2000 initiative for excellence in education, it's a wonderful program to revolutionize our schools; our job-creating transportation strategy to efficiently move goods and services between markets, and I'm looking forward to signing that bill; our civil justice reform plan to keep employers in the factories and out of the courtrooms; and our national energy strategy to cut our dependence on foreign oil.

Let me say a word about this, about our energy strategy, and say this: that Frank is committed—and let me just assure you I remain committed—to environmentally responsible access to ANWR. It is absolutely essential.

You know, the critics said years ago when the debate was on on the pipeline up there, the Alaska pipeline, that caribou would be extinct because of this. Well, there's so many caribou they're rubbing up against

the pipeline, they're breeding like mad. They're having a great time. And it is a sound environment up there. So don't listen to the arguments from the same people that gave us the same arguments before and were proved wrong. Listen to the President who says we, our national security, our own national interest depends upon our having an energy program that makes us less dependent on foreign oil. And I'm never going to change my view on that. If caribou could vote, Murkowski would be in by a landslide. *[Laughter]*

Let me just close this way: I am determined to get this economy moving again. We've got to make the American dream come alive for all Americans. And we've got to keep this good American, this fine servant of Alaska and our country, in the United States Senate. And with your help, I am absolutely confident that that will be done.

Frank, keep up the good work. Take a little time off for Christmas and possibly New Year. And to all in Alaska who are plugged in, my greetings to you, and may you have a wonderful holiday season. And God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 12:32 p.m. at the Willard Hotel. His remarks were broadcast via satellite to fundraising breakfasts in Anchorage and Fairbanks, AK. In his remarks, he referred to Richard Wien, chairman of the Fairbanks breakfast.*

#### **Teleconference Remarks on the Kick-Off of Montana 2000 and Billings 2000 December 11, 1991**

*The President.* Well, I'm just delighted to be with you in this marvelous way. And I really wanted to call up, though, to just offer my strongest congratulations to you and then to that marvelous team that I understand you've assembled there.

You know, this Montana 2000-Billings 2000 really are right in keeping with this new spirit of revolutionizing our schools. And they're going to make terrific contributions to what I think is clearly now a national momentum on education reform.



So I really want to ask you, how's it going?

**Governor Stephens.** It's going very well, Mr. President. And, of course, we're delighted to have your distinguished Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander with us. He'll be speaking right after this phone call. And we have a great group of Montanans who extend to you and Mrs. Bush the compliments of the season.

**The President.** Well, that's terrific. And I was told on my briefing paper, and you can confirm whether it's true, that not only is your superintendent of public instruction there, Nancy Kennan, but also the Billings school superintendent, which is good. If that's true, and I expect you have others, it symbolizes what we're trying to do to get the communities involved and the local levels involved. So are they all there now? Who else you got?

**Governor Stephens.** They are all here, Mr. President, and they send you greetings. We also have the publisher of The Billings Gazette and the president of the Chamber, Mr. Wayne Schile. And we've just heard some very complimentary remarks by Senator Conrad Burns, who is a strong right hand of yours, and a lady named Karen Morrison, who is one of our outstanding teachers. So we've got an all-star cast on the stage.

**The President.** Well, I'm glad they're there. Conrad was here with me in the White House last night. I imagine he made a quick exit to get that far out there. But look, also be sure to give my best to Lamar, and do me a favor; give him a little homework and tell him that I am so anxious to get a report on Montana 2000 as we go along here. I want to try as best I can personally to keep up with the progress in these States. He's filling me in on a lot of them. And I agree with you as to the job he's doing for us. But tell Lamar to be sure to keep me informed on how all that's going.

**Governor Stephens.** I certainly will, Mr. President. And I know he's enjoying his stay here in Montana, and we're waiting for his remarks following your phone call. And we deeply appreciate, Mr. President, you would take time from your schedule to call Montana and visit with us about this important subject.

**The President.** Well, listen, it's good. And my respects to the Senator; my respects to our great Secretary. And I know that this is the right program for our country. And so far, I'll say this, with Nancy Kennan there especially, and others, we've kept this out of the shrill arena of partisan politics. It is too important to our country, too important to our States. And I just commend Lamar for the way he's brought in people and interests from all over the spectrum. I mean, everyone should feel included in this approach, and I'm sure it's going to work that way in your great State too.

**Governor Stephens.** Indeed it is, Mr. President. And thank you again for the courtesy of your call.

**The President.** May I wish all your folks there a merry Christmas. We're beginning, just beginning to get into the Christmas spirit.

**Governor Stephens.** All right. And we have a message for you from Montana, and here it is, Mr. President.

**The President.** All right.

*[At this point, the group wished the President a "Merry Christmas."]*

**The President.** Hey, listen, I beat you to the draw, though. *[Laughter]* That's good. Have a good one, Stan. How's the tree doing out there?

**Governor Stephens.** It's doing just great. It looks marvelous.

**The President.** I'll see you. Well, invite me back out.

**Governor Stephens.** We shall. Thank you, Mr. President. Thanks for your call.

**The President.** Good talking to you. Merry Christmas.

**Governor Stephens.** Merry Christmas.

*Note: The President spoke at 2:30 p.m. from the Oval Office at the White House to participants meeting at Arrowhead Elementary School in Billings, MT. Dr. Peter Carparelli is superintendent of schools for the Billings public school system, and Karen J. Morrison is a teacher at Garfield Elementary School in Billings.*

**Message on the Observance of  
Christmas**

*December 11, 1991*

At Christmas, we celebrate the promise of salvation that God gave to mankind almost 2,000 years ago. The birth of Christ changed the course of history, and His life changed the soul of man. Christ taught that giving is the greatest of all aspirations and that the redemptive power of love and sacrifice is stronger than any force of arms. It is testimony to the wisdom and the truth of these teachings that they have not only endured but also flourished over two millennia.

Blessed with an unparalleled degree of freedom and security, generations of Americans have been able to celebrate Christmas with open joy. Tragically, that has not always been the case in other nations, but we look to the future with optimism, and we celebrate the holidays with special gladness as courageous peoples around the world continue to claim the civil and religious liberty to which all people are heirs. The triumph of democratic ideals and the lessening of global tensions give us added reason for celebration this Christmas season, and as the world community draws closer together, the wisdom of Christ's counsel to "love thy neighbor as thyself" grows clearer.

By His words and by His example, Christ has called us to share our many blessings with others. As individuals and as a Nation, in our homes and in our communities, there are countless ways that we can extend to others the same love and mercy that God showed humankind when He gave us His only Son. During this holy season and throughout the year, let us look to the selfless spirit of giving that Jesus embodied as inspiration in our own lives—giving thanks for what God has done for us and abiding by Christ's teaching to do for others as we would do for ourselves.

Barbara joins me in wishing all of our fellow Americans a Merry Christmas. God bless you.

**George Bush**

**Statement on the European  
Community Summit**

*December 11, 1991*

We welcome the historic steps toward economic and political union agreed to by the leaders of the European Community in The Netherlands. Four and a half decades after the destruction of World War II, Western Europe stands prosperous and free: a model of what cooperation, democracy, and the free market can yield, and a beacon to those in the East struggling to secure their liberty and well-being.

The results of the EC summit in Maastricht represent a milestone which we celebrate along with our European partners. The United States has long supported European unity because of our strong conviction that it was good for Europe, good for the Atlantic partnership, and good for the world. I have made clear from the outset of this administration my view that a strong, united Europe is very much in America's interest. A more united Europe offers the United States a more effective partner, prepared for larger responsibilities.

Europe's steps toward unity will strengthen our renewed Atlantic Alliance. NATO's endorsement at the Rome summit of a "European pillar" underscores the additional responsibility which the European allies are assuming in the protection of shared vital interests and values. At Maastricht, the EC requested the Western European Union, whose members are in both NATO and the EC, to serve as the vehicle for increased European responsibility on defense matters. We are pleased that our allies in the Western European Union in turn decided to strengthen that institution as both NATO's European pillar and the defense component of the European Union. NATO will remain the essential forum for consultation among its members and the venue for agreement on policies bearing on the security and defense commitments of the Allies under the Washington Treaty.

A strengthened EC has a vital role to play in assuring a stable and prosperous Europe and a humane world order. Already today, the European Community and its member states are taking a major role, working with us, to help the citizens of Central and East-

ern Europe transform their societies. Our Atlantic partnership is equally essential in supporting the movement toward freedom and democracy in what we have known as the Soviet Union. But our cooperation with the new Europe goes farther. The European Community stands with us as a partner in the search for peace in the Middle East, and against difficult odds, it continues to labor with our support for a peaceful solution to the war in Yugoslavia.

The evolving monetary unity and single market of the EC promises new economic vitality for Europe. With this comes new investment possibilities and markets for American business as well as new competition. We welcome these developments, but we also expect that the new Europe will assume new responsibilities for maintaining and strengthening the world economic system. This means working with us to bridge our bilateral differences, to expand an open global trading system by successfully concluding the Uruguay round, and to avoid the dangers of protectionism.

America can take pride in its contributions to Europe's success. The U.S. engagement on that continent has yielded many benefits for the Europeans and for us. Those benefits remind us that our interests do not stop at our shores. We are intimately connected to what happens in Europe and beyond. Now, we are getting an even stronger European partner. I therefore speak for all of America when I send best wishes to the members of the European Community for their new steps toward integration.

**Memorandum on the Intermodal  
Surface Transportation Efficiency Act**  
*December 11, 1991*

*Memorandum for the Secretary of  
Transportation*

I have just received, and will soon sign, H.R. 2950, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. I direct you to mobilize immediately the Department to expedite release of highway, highway safety, and mass transit funds. Further, you should assist State and local transportation officials

in the expeditious implementation of this Act. Timely action is essential to provide construction industry jobs and to stimulate our overall economy as well as to begin renewing our investment in the soundness and safety of the Nation's surface transportation system.

**George Bush**

**Exchange With Reporters Prior to a  
Meeting With Prime Minister  
Constantinos Mitsotakis of Greece**  
*December 12, 1991*

*The President.* We've got a few things, odds and ends to talk about. But Greek-U.S., as far as we're concerned, is strong as they can be, Greek-U.S. relations, and we're very pleased about that.

*The Prime Minister.* I am also very pleased. And we made progress.

**Soviet Union**

*Q.* Mr. President, do you think Gorbachev—

*The President.* I have nothing really to add to the discussion on that right now. We're following it very carefully, as you know, and in touch. So we'll just leave it right there.

**Cyprus**

*Q.* Are you hopeful that the Cyprus talks will start early next year?

*The President.* Well, we want to talk about that. That's one of the issues where I have great respect for Prime Minister Mitsotakis' judgment. We've gone into it at length on several occasions. And I would just want to assure him that if the U.S. can help move things forward, we are determined to try. We thought we'd moved a little bit before the process had moved. And now we want to, out of this visit, see what he has to suggest and maybe we can be more helpful. I'd like to think so. I think he knows we've tried.

And, of course, the Secretary-General will be down here this afternoon, so we can talk with him about it. So, this subject will be very much on our minds.

**The Prime Minister.** We will discuss this subject. It's a very important subject—matter—for us.

**Q.** Are you optimistic that talks will come soon, though?

**The Prime Minister.** I am always optimistic.

**The President.** That's why he's such a good Prime Minister. He's always looking ahead.

#### Jay Leno

**Q.** How did you like Jay Leno, Mr. President?

**The President.** He was all right. He was great.

**Q.** Did he have any good jokes?

**The President.** He had a couple about me, but I can't tell you what they were. No, he's funny and very good. I wished him well, and I had a chance to show him the decorations and see Barbara. You talked to him. Thanks a lot.

**Q.** Did you ask him to ease up, Mr. Vice President? [Laughter]

**The Vice President.** I told him to ease up, you're right. [Laughter]

**The President.** He hasn't been on your case.

All right, gang, this has been a great pleasure, but we've got a lot of business to do here.

May I just say how pleased we are to have the Prime Minister here. I will just repeat here what I said to the earlier wave of journalists, and that is that from our standpoint, the U.S. standpoint, U.S.-Greece relations are on strong footing. They are in good shape. And we are working very closely with this Government, and will continue to, to try to help solve the outside problems as well as the few remaining, I would say, rather small items that exists between Greece and the United States.

So, on the U.S. side, we are just pleased to welcome the Prime Minister here and look forward to having a wide array of talks on problems in the area. Cyprus, obviously, will come up. I'm most anxious to get his views on the Balkans, and a lot of other subjects to discuss. But the main point is he's welcome. And it gives me a chance in a small way to say thank you to the Prime Minister and the people of Greece for a trip

that Barbara and I will never forget. It was wonderful.

**The Prime Minister.** It was a pleasure for us.

#### The Balkans

**Q.** —in the Balkans?

**The President.** Well, we want to talk about that. I'm anxious to hear from the Prime Minister on his priorities; where he thinks we could help; the role of the EC; and, of course, the role you asked about. But I'd like to hear it from him rather than give my views. After that I'll be glad to give them.

Listen, we've got to go to work, guys. Last one.

**Q.** How would you describe your role with the Prime Minister?

**The President.** Close, strong, personal, and respectful. We've got it all. And that's not diplomatic language, that's right from here. We've got all this diplomacy, you know. We can say "cordial and friendly." He's a friend.

#### Cyprus

**Q.** Are you prepared to show the same determination on the Cyprus issue as you have shown in the Middle East?

**The President.** We're going to try. We're going to try. I want to do what's helpful. We tried when we came back from Greece and Turkey, and we still support the Secretary-General's initiative. He'll be here today, incidentally. But the United States can't dictate. We can try to help, and that's what I want to hear about.

Now, you guys are out of here because we've got to get to work. We've got a lot to do here. Thanks a lot.

*Note: The exchange began at 11:02 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.*

## Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Constantinos Mitsotakis of Greece

December 12, 1991

*The President.* Mr. Prime Minister and distinguished members of the Greek Government, 5 months ago, I visited Athens, the first visit by an American President to Greece in more than a generation. Today, in welcoming Prime Minister Mitsotakis to the White House, our two countries reaffirm the value of close contact to address common concern.

Mr. Prime Minister, in the past 3 years, we've witnessed a world transformed, and your continent has been right at the center of change. America sees Greece as a partner in meeting many of the challenges that cross borders and threaten the peace: terrorism, international drug trade, ethnic conflict.

In the Balkans, in the new Europe, in Cyprus, Greece remains a factor for stability, a champion of human rights, a partner in the quest to forge a new world order: peaceful, prosperous, and free.

The U.S. continues to be as concerned as we have been in the past with Greece's security and the sanctity of its borders. We continue to help Greece strengthen its defenses. And we support the progress your nation has made toward economic reform, liberalizing trade and investment.

Opening Greek markets to investment from the United States and other nations will mean jobs and better living standards for Greeks and Americans alike.

Our meetings today also focused on challenges that stand as obstacles to lasting peace in your corner of the world: The longstanding conflict in Cyprus, and Yugoslavia's fratricidal civil war.

Let me start with Yugoslavia. Who can fail to be moved by these heartrending images, carnage and suffering on a scale that recalls the horrors of the Second World War rather than the hopes of the new era we've now entered. The U.S. supports the European Community's efforts, the EC's efforts, including economic sanctions, to stop the fighting.

We remain convinced that a negotiated settlement, helped along by the United Nations and the interested international com-

munity, is possible, necessary, and certainly long overdue.

In the case of Cyprus, I again offer the good offices of the United States to overcome a source of bitter conflict between two of our valued allies. We continue to hope for an international high-level meeting on Cyprus as early as possible in 1992.

With good-faith negotiations, and the continued efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General, we can make progress in producing a settlement acceptable to all parties.

Mr. Prime Minister, let me just close by simply saying that Greece holds great meaning for Americans: Not only the millions who trace their own ancestry to your country, but, as relative newcomers now in our third century of democracy, as a people who revere Greece as the birthplace of democracy more than two millennia ago.

It's been a very special pleasure having this opportunity to meet with you again, to have you and your able team here in Washington, DC today, and to wish Greece on behalf of all Americans every blessings for the new year.

All yours.

*The Prime Minister.* I would like first to express my heartfelt thanks to President Bush for inviting me to Washington and receiving me at the White House so warmly. At this moment in history when democracy's flourishing throughout the world, it is a great honor for me as Prime Minister of Greece, where democracy was born 2,500 years ago, to come for an official visit to the United States, the champion of democracy in our times.

The love of freedom and faith in democracy are two of the important ties that form a unique bond between Greece and the United States. And I welcome the opportunity this visit has given me to reinforce our special relationship in this season of hope and renewal.

I am especially pleased that this visit allowed me to continue my private talks with President Bush and with our delegations to expand on the substantial and fruitful discussions we had in Greece last summer.

As might be expected, we exchanged views on world developments and focused closely on what is happening in our region,

the Balkans, where, as you know, Greece is playing an essential role in promoting peace and stability.

We had a lengthy discussion on the Cyprus question, and I thanked President Bush for his personal commitment to help bring about a fair settlement that will end the long agony of the Cypriot people.

I am certain that with the strong support of the President, the new Secretary-General of the United Nations, building on the achievements of his worthy predecessor, will be able to lead the efforts of all of us to a speedy and successful conclusion on Cyprus.

I want to stress that our talks marked one more milestone in the improving relations between our two countries, which, as you know, have made spectacular progress in the past 2 years.

The ties between Greece and the United States are strong and special. We fought in two World Wars together and waged a joint struggle to stop the spread of totalitarianism. But what makes it such a profound pleasure for all Greeks who come to the United States is that we recognize the highest ideals of this Nation as native to our own. I am very confident that the special relationship between Greece and the United States, which reflects the common values of our two peoples and the strong friendship they have fostered will grow even stronger in the years ahead.

Let me conclude by wishing everyone in the United States a very happy holiday season.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:19 p.m. on the South Lawn of the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

#### **Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on Assistance to the Soviet Union and the Republics**

*December 12, 1991*

We are witnessing dramatic and historic events in the Soviet Union and the Republics. The collapse of communism there is of global importance and gives the Republics

the opportunity to move rapidly toward democracy and market economies. These developments pave the way for the integration of the Soviet Union and the Republics into the community of democratic nations and the strengthening of a more peaceful and stable international order.

The world has a vital interest in the success of this transition. The United States is especially well-positioned because of its heritage and traditions to make a substantial contribution by building on its existing technical cooperation efforts as well as medical and food assistance programs. The United States strongly supports reform at all levels of government and will focus its assistance efforts on those who stand for fundamental political and economic reform, including the establishment of democratic systems based on principles of the rule of law and individual freedoms, respect for internationally recognized human rights, economic reform based on market principles, respect for international law and obligations, and adherence to responsible security policies.

To be effective, programs of all U.S. Government agencies must be carefully coordinated internally, and with the programs of other countries and international institutions. It is also critically important to ensure that the energy and resources of individual Americans, private voluntary organizations, and businesses be fully integrated into our efforts, wherever possible.

Accordingly, the President has appointed Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence S. Eagleburger to be the Coordinator of United States assistance to the Soviet Union and the Republics. In that position, Secretary Eagleburger will be responsible for overseeing and coordinating all assistance programs and activities which pertain to the Soviet Union and the Republics.

The President has also named Michael J. Boskin, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Donald Atwood, Deputy Secretary of Defense, John E. Robson, Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, Ann M. Veneman, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Ronald W. Roskens, Administrator of the Agency for International Development, as Deputy Coordinators.

The United States will focus its assistance to the Soviet Union and the Republics on several priority areas: food distribution and marketing, energy and environment, financial and economic institution building, democratic institution building, and defense conversion. U.S. assistance also will be aimed at promoting increased trade and investment through programs designed to encourage the involvement of U.S. businesses in the emerging private sector of the Soviet Union and the Republics.

**Teleconference Remarks on the Kick-Off of Arizona 2000**  
*December 12, 1991*

**The President.** Governor, how are you, Fife?

**Governor Symington.** Fine, Mr. President, how are you?

**The President.** Well, I don't know how our communication is working, but I wanted to just check in and call with congratulations to you and to that great team that Lamar tells me you've put together. And I understand some of them are there.

**Governor Symington.** Yes, we have everybody assembled at the Trevor Browne High School. And we've got 1,200 people in the audience.

**The President.** Well, that is terrific. And I know that Jim Kolbe's there, and Jon Kyl; at least they were scheduled to be.

**Governor Symington.** They're here.

**The President.** Well, let me salute them, and also Diane Bishop, your State superintendent. And I say this because I want to emphasize something that I'm sure you know, and that is that we don't view this marvelous program that you all are engaged in as a partisan effort at all. I mean, this is national. It flies over politics. And I think it's catching on around the country. And I wanted to just congratulate you on getting it kicked off here.

And I didn't know you had 1,200 people. I heard there was 800 Bruins sitting out there in the auditorium. They said 900. It sounds like you've got a bunch there.

But that's just great. And I hope that they all realize that Arizona is involved in some-

thing fundamental, something revolutionary, and something wonderful for our country.

But tell me, how's the day been going?

**Governor Symington.** It's going extremely well. But we're obviously thrilled to have your call. And we just want to thank you for your tremendous leadership on the education front, Mr. President. And we're happy to be an America 2000 State.

**The President.** Well, I know it'll go well. And I think the point here is that you're showing that education reform can happen right there at the local level, on a school-by-school or community-by-community basis. And we're—the Federal Government obviously wants to do its part. Educational spending is higher than it's ever been. But this isn't a question of simply money; it's a question of ideas and revolutionizing our approach, the Nation's approach to education.

So, good luck on it. And I think it is a way that the whole community can pull together to help all the students learn. And I'm impressed with what you're doing. So, give Lamar a homework assignment if you will. The poor guy's killing himself going all around the country and doing a superb job. But tell him when he gets back—is he sitting right there?

**Governor Symington.** He's right here.

**The President.** Oh, well, let me ask him then. Lamar, when you get back, give me a report on how this thing shapes up, how Arizona 2000 is doing, how it fits into our national program. And come on over to the White House, and we'll get an update on this big trip of yours.

**Governor Symington.** He's coming right to the phone, Mr. President.

**The President.** Okay.

**Secretary Alexander.** Yes, sir. [Laughter]

**The President.** How's it looking out there?

**Secretary Alexander.** Thank you, Mr. President. I'll see you next week.

**The President.** Well, I look forward to it. And may I say to everyone there: Diane Bishop, Lela Alston, who is, I understand, the chairman of the senate education committee from the State Senate; Bev Herman was supposed to be there, who is the chair-

man of the house education committee in the Arizona State House.

I'm just delighted that you all are participating in this. And I wish you all the best.

Is Peter Rios out there, the president of the house?

**Governor Symington.** Yes, Mr. President, I was about to mention him. He's here as well.

**The President.** Well, you've got them all. I've just had a partial list here, but I was told that the leadership would be there, both Democrats and Republicans. So that's great.

Well, listen, I won't keep you, but let me wish all those Bruins a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year. And let me give them a little lecture. Do everything that your Governor and your State superintendent and these people are telling you to do in terms of this education. We need you. You're the future, and we need you bad. So, have a good Christmas and then back to work. And I'll do my part here.

And bless you all. And, Fife, keep up the great work of leadership.

**Governor Symington.** Thank you, Mr. President.

**The President.** Over and out.

*Note: The President spoke at 3:47 p.m. from the Oval Office in the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Congressmen Jim Kolbe and Jon Kyl of Arizona.*

#### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar December 12, 1991**

#### **Gratitude for the Release of American Hostages**

**Q.** What are your thoughts this afternoon, Mr. President?

**The President.** My thoughts? My thoughts are gratitude to the Secretary-General and to Mr. Picco. My thoughts are of courage and heroism of the five people standing in front of us. My thoughts are for their families. My thoughts are of the joy that the Nation feels at the release of these five and others preceeding them. And I think this

says that we have a lot to be grateful for in America. It's a wonderful, wonderful occasion at the White House, having them here.

Now, we're going to go over into the White House itself to honor the Secretary-General, Mr. Picco, his courage, his heroism really, helped free these people. And best of all for Barbara and me, to say hello to their loving families and welcome them home.

#### **The Yellow Ribbon**

**Q.** Is it time to take the yellow ribbon down, sir?

**The President.** Not for me. Not for me until the cases are all closed. There's two Germans held against their will. There are remains of two beloved Americans who have not been accounted for. And we are grateful for what's happened, very grateful that they're all here. I just couldn't be more pleased.

**Q.** Can you—

**The President.** Not any louder, no, I can't. [Laughter]

#### **Timing of the Release**

**Q.** Do you think this could have happened sooner?

**The President.** I'm just grateful that it's happened. And, of course, I wish that it happened sooner. For them to spend those precious years in their lives held against their will, of course, every American wishes that it had been sooner.

In any event, why, they're home and that's what matters. And it's Christmas and that also matters.

#### **Unresolved Hostage Issues**

**Q.** Mr. Secretary-General, did you bring any good news about the return of the remains of Americans and about the release of the two Germans?

**The Secretary-General.** Well, as you know, I am extremely concerned about the fate, of course, of Mr. Higgins, Colonel Higgins and Mr. Buckley. And I hope to get some news in the next few days.

And then, as far as the Germans are concerned, we keep working and we are hopeful; as well as for the Israeli missing persons and some others who are the detainees in Lebanon as well, are a matter of concern to me. Because for us in the United Nations



we see too many problems. It is not a political problem as you very well know.

**The President.** Thank you all very much. We've got to go over and greet the families now.

*Note: The exchange began at 4:35 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House, prior to a meeting with the U.N. Secretary-General; Giandomenico Picco, Assistant to the Secretary-General for Special Assignments; and the former five American hostages.*

**Remarks on Presenting the Medal of Freedom and the Presidential Award for Exceptional Service to United Nations Officials**  
*December 12, 1991*

**The President.** We are so happy, Barbara and I are so happy to be here for this very special pre-Christmas family occasion at the White House. The Vice President is here, and I salute him. Members of our Cabinet: Secretary of State; Secretary Mosbacher; Secretary of Labor; Tom Pickering, our able Ambassador at the U.N. And we all were just dying to come.

We're joined also by two gentlemen who represent the highest in humanitarian ideals. And I'm talking, of course, about Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General of the United Nations; and the Assistant Secretary-General Gianni Picco, who is right here. Let me also welcome to the White House the friends and the families of five special men returned to freedom. Finally, to Thomas Sutherland, Alann Steen, Jesse Turner, Joseph Cicippio, and Terry Anderson, let me simply say on behalf of our entire country, welcome home.

All over America people waited for the day your long ordeal would end. And all over America we share your joy, and we thank God that you are free.

Nothing says it better than, I think, the sign in Norristown, Pennsylvania, in Thomas Cicippio's front yard. For 5 long years that sign served as a constant reminder, with the name of each hostage and a number counting each cruel day of captivity. And then, one by one, the numbers gave way to a sign marked "Freed." And

finally, just 9 days ago, came the moment the Cicippio family prayed for. And over Joseph's name, they nailed not another number but a sign that read, "Free at last." And that said a lot for all of us.

And all of you have survived an act of unspeakable, uncivilized cruelty. Hostage-taking is hell on a human scale, not just for the innocents held captive, but for the families, for the families that they left behind. And no power on Earth can give back the years that you've lost. And yet no one can take from you the strength of the spirit that sustained you.

The world is now learning the horrors that you endured. But we're learning as well, and this is the good news, the story of your survival, the miracle that you fashioned from the hope your captors could not take away.

We know now you used the language of the deaf to communicate from cell to cell to speak to one another in silence, how you managed to learn from one another, laugh with one another, help each other sustain a stubborn indignity. And you demonstrated each day in captivity a defiant faith. You believed in your country and your families and your colleagues and yourself. And you knew that one day you would go free.

Your triumph shines new light on a simple truth: The days and years apart burn away the trivial things we once thought had value to reveal what truly matters in life, family, faith, hope, and love. And seeing freedom through your eyes, even for a moment, frees us from the petty concerns that so often hold us hostage and distract us from life's larger joys, larger meaning.

The families here today are whole again. But for others the ordeal is not over, for two German citizens and their families, for the families of two courageous Americans whose duty sent them to Lebanon and who died at the hands of their captors. In the name of the civilized values that we hold dear, I call on those responsible for these crimes: Free Heinrich Struebig and Thomas Kemptner, and return the remains of Rich Higgins and William Buckley. And let the families of these innocent men find peace.

The truth is clear. Hostage-taking has failed. From the beginning in Tehran in 1979, hostage-takers sought to exploit our

system's reverence for the individual. They sought to exploit that as a weakness. And your captors believed hostage-taking would tie our hands, and they were wrong. We remained determined to defend American interests in international principles in the Middle East. Through Desert Shield and Desert Storm we stood fast against aggression, and we showed the world that terrorism in all its forms can't succeed. And in the end, the hostage-takers did more damage to their cause than they did to America's resolve, certainly than they did to your resolve. And in the end, each hostage-taking, each heartless act against innocence announced to the world the inhumanity of the captors.

Tom Sutherland and Terry Anderson, you were right when you said no to negotiating with hostage-takers. This administration has followed a no-negotiation policy since the beginning. Bargaining serves only to make a currency of human lives and leads to more of the evil that it seeks to end. I am convinced that this course remains the world's best hope that no more innocent men and women will meet your fate, that no family will ever again be forced to endure your years in agony.

This policy was not without risk. Sticking with it wasn't easy, especially for a country that cares so deeply about every American held against his will. We've learned that it works. It helped end the agony, and I like to feel that it helped bring you home.

Yes, America did its part. Many men and women in this country and around the world, most of whom you'll never meet, worked to secure your freedom. And today, we want to go on. So many of the family members sitting behind you all and aside of you did their part, and boy, did they do it well. And it wasn't just spouses; it was sisters and brothers and plenty of others I might single out here.

But there are others as well. And today we want to recognize the selfless efforts of one man who, at great personal risk, helped bring you to freedom. And I might say parenthetically that one of the first words I heard from Terry Anderson was the suggestion that we honor the man we're about to honor, and the other one as well.

In his years as Special Envoy at the United Nations, Assistant Secretary-General

Gianni Picco has sought always to serve peace and to resolve conflict. Today for his efforts in winning the freedom of our hostages, we honor Mr. Picco with the Presidential Award for Exceptional Service.

Would you come up here, please, sir? Very proud to have you here.

I will ask the Major to read the citation please. Please be seated.

**The Major.** "The United States honors Mr. Picco in recognition of his distinguished role in facilitating the release of hostages held in Lebanon. His skillful diplomacy with Middle Eastern governments and officials and representatives of the hostage holders has resulted in freedom for many individuals held in the region outside the due process of law, including six Americans.

"His personal courage in the face of danger and his dedication to the mission represent the best tradition of international civil service."

**The President.** We also honor the man who made your release his personal responsibility, a man whose life work in service to humanitarian ideals has won him honor the world over, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Before asking the Major to read the citation let me just say this: He made peace among all nations his mission. He's taken the principles of the United Nations Charter as a personal code.

He was present at the creation as a delegate to the first General Assembly of the United Nations back in 1946. And we first met in 1971 when each of us received the singular honor of serving our countries as Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

My distinguished colleague went on to represent Peru in the Security Council, and then, of course, as we all know, for the past 10 years he has served the cause of world peace as Secretary-General.

His tenure has marked the rebirth, literally, the rebirth of the United Nations, its emergence as a force for peace. Cooperation now replaces cold war conflict. And across the globe the U.N. now leads the international effort to resolve conflicts that have caused so much suffering. Peacekeeping missions have proliferated. Eleven are

underway right now; five begun in the past year alone.

And, Mr. Secretary-General, I am personally grateful to you for your strong stand against Iraq's assault on Kuwait, your tireless work to sustain the coalition. In large part because of your leadership, the United Nations now stands closer to its founding ideal than at any time in history.

And today then we honor this architect of peace, a man we are all proud to call friend, that Barbara and I especially treasure the friendship for the Perez de Cuellar. Mr. Secretary-General, with great pride I now present to you the highest civilian honor this country can bestow, the Medal of Freedom. And I will ask the Major to read the citation.

**The Major.** "Javier Perez de Cuellar. For 10 years of exceptionally distinguished service as Secretary-General of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar presided over the rebirth of that institution. With wisdom, vision, diplomacy, and skill, he forged a U.N. where cooperation in reaching common goals is replacing rhetoric and division.

"His tireless dedication to conflict resolution, and economic and social concerns has contributed to a better world and ensured a strengthened U.N. more capable than ever of fulfilling its Charter.

"His service has been marked by a singular devotion to humanitarian interests, including the life, security, and safety of individual people throughout the world.

"The United States honors a servant of humankind who has advanced the cause of freedom and hope."

**The President.** Congratulations.

**The Secretary-General.** Mr. President, Mrs. Bush, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it is a tremendous honor for me to receive the Medal of Freedom, an award that I shall value all the more highly because it has been given to me by my old and very dear friend, President Bush.

In my view, it is really more appropriate that this tribute should be paid to the United Nations as a whole rather than to me personally. Today, as never before, the organization is being called upon to fulfill the responsibility entrusted to it by its founding fathers nearly half a century ago. The circumstances in the international

arena that have made it possible for the United Nations to carry out this role are deeply gratifying. And much credit is due to President Bush himself, who has a profound understanding of the organization and its goals.

Mr. President, it gives me special pleasure to attend this ceremony after having been greeted by a group of brave and wonderful men who, at this moment, understand more fully than we possibly can the true meaning of freedom. That these former American hostages have, at long last, been reunited with their loved ones and especially during this holiday season makes the efforts that I and my efficient and loyal assistant, Mr. Giandomenico Picco, have undertaken these many months all the more worthwhile.

At the same time, Mr. President, I cannot but mention with sorrow an American who was kidnaped while serving the United Nations, namely, Colonel William R. Higgins, who was, at the time of his abduction, chief of a peacekeeping observer group in south Lebanon. It is tragic that the life of this innocent man was lost. I am doing everything possible to see to it that his body is returned promptly to his family.

As I prepare to leave office, I would like, once again, to thank President Bush for the cooperation and support he has extended to me as Secretary-General, and to the organization more widely; and particularly in helping to ensure that the United Nations may fulfill the enormous expectations that today exist for greater peace, stability, and respect for human rights to all the world. Thank you, Mr. President.

**The President.** I know some of us are going over to light America's Christmas tree across the way, but Barbara and I just have to say hello to the families. So what we'll suggest is, we'll go out here in the hall, and you all come wandering out. You've got to do that; that's mandatory. You have to say hello to us. And then, please take your families and browse through this winter wonderland. The work on all these decorations was done by volunteers from all over this country, and I think you'll feel, as we do, that the White House is blessed by this wonderful dedication, and the gift from the American people.

So, it's a fitting time that you all are here. And I think we'll just wander on out now and ask you to come, and please, all of you just come by and say hello. We'd love that.

*Note: The President spoke at 5:03 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. Maj. John Wissler, USMC, military aide to the President, read the citations. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.*

### Remarks on Lighting the National Christmas Tree December 12, 1991

Welcome to this wonderful Washington tradition. And I am particularly proud tonight to have some very special friends here with us to help light our Nation's Christmas tree. America's prayers were answered when these men came home to us; so a special welcome to Terry Anderson and Madeleine Bassil. Here they are: Alann and Virginia Steen; and Thomas and Jean Sutherland; Joseph and Elham Cicippio; and Jesse and Badr Turner.

Have a great evening.

*[At this point, the Christmas Pageant of Peace entertainment began.]*

Well, thank you, Joe. Please be seated all of you, and it's good to see the Secretary of the Interior, so many other special guests here. And, of course, a warm thank you to Marilyn Horne; this marvelous Tucson Boys Chorus; the Navy Band; Joe Williams; our favorites, the Gatlin Brothers over here. And all the performers who brought the Christmas spirit to Washington tonight.

And thanks to Santa. His big night is coming up. And we don't have to ask this particular Santa, Willard Scott, what the weather's going to be like on Christmas Eve. He's predicting it. And he is right every once in a while. *[Laughter]*

This is a very special night. And I look over my shoulder here at the very special guests, the brave men who are with us here tonight. And on behalf of our loving country I say, finally, to Terry Anderson, to Tom Sutherland, Joseph Cicippio, and Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, and the others not here: Welcome home.

Welcome home, to this, the most generous and proud and free Nation on the face of the Earth. It is more than just appropriate, it is almost miraculous that we can celebrate with these five the lighting of our Nation's Christmas tree. The idea is so moving because these men have come out of darkness into the bright light of liberty. And as you hear these remarkable men talk, you realize they were never lost in that darkness of sorrow, anguish, and despair. Even at the worst moments, they were guided by a stubborn spark that cruelty could not extinguish, the spark of the human spirit.

Their precious gift to us is to rekindle our Nation's belief in the light of faith and our belief in ourselves. And when Terry and Tom and Joseph and Alann and Jesse light our Nation's tree tonight, that act will be a reminder of what they and their companions, living and gone, have already done to light our Nation's soul.

There have been special guests at these ceremonies before. Even Winston Churchill helped to light the tree during World War II, but this Nation has never been honored by the presence of men whose spirit meant more to all of us. Your fortitude, your humor, and generosity tell us the true meaning of this season. And at this time of year especially, these men remind us that the glitz and glamour of material things don't matter; the courage, the faith, and the love of these men embody, that they embody, are all we need to recognize what's really important.

The way they've returned to their families and to us proves they live by the challenge of that beautiful prayer of St. Francis, "Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. Where there is despair, let us sow hope; where there is hatred, love; and where there is darkness, ever light."

When history remembers Christmas 1991, let it remember that tonight we gathered with men who show us that this is a season of spirit, not a celebration of plenty.

Let history remember that tonight we stood with these two heroes and asked for God's blessing on this world. And finally, in the words of the carol we'll sing in a few

minutes, let history remember that at Christmas 1991, this Nation united to give thanks to God and to ask God for peace on earth, goodwill to all.

God bless these five men, this wonderful country, and now I'd like to ask them to join me as we light the Nation's Christmas tree.

*Note: The President spoke at 5:42 p.m. on the Ellipse during the annual Christmas Pageant of Peace. In his remarks, he referred to Joe Riley, president of the Christmas Pageant of Peace; Marilyn Horne, mezzo-soprano with the Metropolitan Opera; jazz singer Joe Williams; and country and western entertainers, the Gatlin Brothers. Television weatherman Willard Scott was dressed as Santa Claus. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

## **Proclamation 6391—Wright Brothers Day, 1991**

*December 12, 1991*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

They were quiet men of modest means, but in an extraordinary display of talent, imagination, and teamwork, Orville and Wilbur Wright changed the world. Less than a century ago, on December 17, 1903, these enterprising brothers launched the age of aviation with the first controlled, manned flight in a heavier-than-air, mechanically propelled airplane. Although their handcrafted "Flyer" covered just 120 feet on its maiden voyage over the wind-swept beach near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the Wright brothers helped lead mankind on a great journey of discovery and progress that continues to this day.

Given the routine nature of air travel today—as well as the increasing frequency of shuttle missions and other forms of space-flight—it can be difficult for us to fathom just how remarkable the work of the Wright brothers was. When they began to experiment with airplane models and wind tunnels at their small workshop in Dayton,

Ohio, many people believed that human flight would never be possible. At that time, even the automobile had not yet appeared on the American scene. Defying the skeptics, Orville and Wilbur Wright persevered through months of careful study, calculation, and design.

Indeed, long before they began constructing their first flying machine, the Wrights immersed themselves in the study of existing texts and papers on fundamental aerodynamics. They also conducted exhaustive research, moving far beyond previously accepted data and theories, many of which had proved to be unreliable. The Wrights' achievement of three-axis control in flight, inspired by watching birds of the air, laid the foundation for their success at Kitty Hawk and for the future development of all aviation.

More than a tribute to their mechanical acumen and collective genius, the Wright brothers' triumph at Kitty Hawk stands as a shining example of the power of intellect and determination over seemingly insurmountable odds. It is an example we do well to remember. Today many frontiers still stand before us. Every problem and question we face, both as individuals and as a Nation, represents new challenges and opportunities. Like Orville and Wilbur Wright and like all those Americans who have used their freedom, resources and skill to reach high goals, we, too, can rise on the wings of industry and learning.

The Congress, by a joint resolution approved December 17, 1963 (77 Stat. 402; 36 U.S.C. 169), has designated the 17th day of December of each year as "Wright Brothers Day" and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation commemorating this day.

**Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim December 17, 1991, as Wright Brothers Day. I invite all Americans to observe that day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.**

**In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the**

United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

*[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:10 a.m. December 13, 1991]*

*Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on December 16.*

and Foreign Relations will be submitted merely to provide notice.

George Bush

The White House,  
December 12, 1991.

*Note: H.R. 3807, approved December 12, was assigned Public Law No. 102-228.*

**Statement on Signing the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty Implementation Act of 1991**  
*December 12, 1991*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3807, the "Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty Implementation Act of 1991." The Act supports the United States Government's program to transfer Conventional Forces in Europe treaty-limited equipment within the NATO Alliance. Implementation serves U.S. security interests and achieves Administration objectives.

However, I have concerns over two provisions of the Act. Section 401(c) requires that the Inspector General of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency submit a report on certain matters to the President, the Speaker of the House, and the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Because prior review of executive branch reports is integral to the President's constitutional authority to supervise and control decision-making within the executive branch, H.R. 3807 shall not be interpreted to encroach upon that authority.

Section 402 requires additional congressional oversight of On-Site Inspection Agency (OSIA) activities. The existing review by the House and Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Committees provides sufficient congressional oversight of OSIA activities. Expanding the review to include other committees of the House and Senate will unnecessarily burden the budget review and oversight process. The requested report and budget documentation for the Committees on Foreign Affairs

**Statement on Signing the Dire Emergency Appropriations and Disaster Assistance Legislation**  
*December 12, 1991*

Today I have signed into law H.J. Res. 157, the "Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations and Transfers for Relief From the Effects of Natural Disasters, for Other Urgent Needs, and for Incremental Cost of 'Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm' Act of 1992."

I am pleased that the Congress was able to approve, prior to its adjournment, a bill that provides urgently needed funding for programs that address the effects of natural disasters in the United States and its territories. I am likewise pleased that H.J. Res. 157 provides these needed funds in a way that does not violate the statutory spending limits mandated by the Budget Enforcement Act (BEA) or the concept of what constitutes an emergency under the BEA.

The Act provides \$800 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster relief program to cover costs associated with the unusually high level of disasters that have occurred during 1991. These include Hurricane Bob; the devastating fires in Oakland, California, and the State of Washington; and the northeastern storm that ravaged New England on October 31. In addition, the Act provides \$995 million in assistance to producers of agricultural crops who have suffered losses during 1990 or 1991. Pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, I designate these amounts as emergency requirements. These designated amounts include the amount I designated as an emergency requirement on June 28, 1991, in my

supplemental and amendment requests for FEMA.

The Act also includes funds for the incremental costs of Operation Desert Shield/Storm. Such expenditures continue to be financed by foreign contributions to the Defense Cooperation Account.

I am appreciative of the fact that the Congress deleted or significantly limited the availability of over \$2.5 billion in funding that I have not designated as "emergency requirements."

George Bush

The White House,  
December 12, 1991.

*Note: H.J. Res. 157, approved December 12, was assigned Public Law No. 102-229.*

#### **Statement on Signing the Resolution Trust Corporation Refinancing, Restructuring, and Improvement Act of 1991**

*December 12, 1991*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3435, the "Resolution Trust Corporation Refinancing, Restructuring, and Improvement Act of 1991." This Act reorganizes the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) while providing only stopgap funding to allow the RTC to resume the resolution of failed thrifts.

H.R. 3435 provides only a part of the funds requested by the Administration which are urgently needed to protect depositors' accounts. This manner of funding risks a repeat of the start-and-stop process that has already cost American taxpayers millions of dollars.

The Administration requested \$80 billion to allow the RTC to fulfill the Federal Government's deposit insurance commitments and complete the job of closing insolvent thrifts.

I am approving this legislation in view of the RTC's critical need to receive funding immediately so that we can make good on our Government's deposit insurance obligations. I urge the Congress, upon its return, to move quickly to provide the remaining

necessary funds to allow the RTC to complete its mission without increasing the burden on America's taxpayers.

George Bush

The White House,  
December 12, 1991.

*Note: H.R. 3435, approved December 12, was assigned Public Law No. 102-233.*

#### **Exchange With Reporters on the Situation in the Soviet Union**

*December 13, 1991*

**Q.** Mr. President, now that it appears that Gorbachev is on his way out, what are your feelings?

**The President.** Well, we're watching that situation very closely. Secretary Baker made a very good speech, talking about administration policy. We're looking forward to his trip. And this is not a helpful time to editorialize on personalities inside the Soviet Union.

We're supporting those who are reformed. We're supporting those who are for democracy, whoever they are, wherever they are, in whatever Republic they are and in the center. And that's been our policy, and we will continue to watch this question of self-determination evolve in the Soviet Union. And that's exactly what's happening. And we have some interests, interests in the peaceful reconciliation. We've got fundamental interests in responsibility to the whole world for the nuclear weapons question. So we want to see that that is handled with the ultimate, maximum amount of safety, and the assurances from the center and from the Republics has been very good on that, incidentally.

So we're watching it very, very closely, and I think the leaders there understand our position as to let them sort these matters out. It's not for the United States to dictate these matters, but we do have interests, some of which I've mentioned here.

Thank you all very much.

**Q.** Have you been in contact with Yeltsin or Gorbachev?

**The President.** We'll let you know when we reveal the personal contacts I've had. But we're in close contact with the different factions.

Thank you.

*Note: The exchange began at 9:18 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.*

### Exchange with Reporters in the Cabinet Room

December 13, 1991

**The President.** Listen, this meeting is on our drug strategy, and I'm very grateful to so many, members of the Cabinet and other leaders who are here today. I have great confidence in the work that Bob is involved in. And, indeed, there is some very good news on the drug front. That doesn't mean we've won the battle by a long shot, but I'm sure he'll be reporting to us in just a minute on the problems that remain and on the progress that's been made.

This has got to be, as we turn the corner, remain as one of our key priorities. And when you talk to some that he's enlisted in the private sector, I'm encouraged. I mean, I've talked to quite a few of them, Jim Burke and many others, and they are very, very positive as to how we're doing here. When I look at the international situation that Bob's been engaged in, in the interdiction, working with Justice and many others, Don Atwood's department, why, there's reason to be optimistic there.

So, it's a good message, but we've got to do better, and we've got to continue to fight. So thank you all very much. And now—

**Q.** Mr. President, can I just ask you to follow up on something you said in the other session?

**The President.** No, we've got to get going, honestly. We really do. We've been in there, interrupted, you know, when we did a meeting, that I deviated from the rules. So thanks.

**Q.** Could you just explain—I mean, why are you satisfied with assurances that there's no nuclear threat because of the Soviet—

**The President.** We will explain all that in time. I can't do it at a photo opportunity. It's very complicated.

**Q.** Are you satisfied there's no problem?

**The President.** I can certify to the American people that the assurances we've been given are very positive. And we are continuing to stay engaged in it. So, please let us have this time. I only have a little bit, limited—

*Note: The exchange began at 10:03 a.m. prior to a meeting with the Domestic Policy Council. In his remarks, the President referred to Bob Martinez, Director of the Office of Drug Control Policy; Deputy Secretary of Defense Donald J. Atwood, Jr.; and Jim Burke, Chairman of the President's Drug Advisory Council. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.*

### Teleconference Remarks to the 1991 Congress of Cities

December 13, 1991

**The President.** Thank you, Commissioner Hood. And I understand you're the incoming president of the wonderful organization, the National League of Cities. Thank you for inviting me to be with you. To President Sidney Barthelemy, the Mayor of one of my favorite cities, New Orleans, welcome to you, sir. I look forward to your help, most of all, officials who have enriched our cities and helped our cities enrich America; I greet all of you.

I am very pleased that Lamar Alexander was able to address you this morning. A former Governor, a great Secretary of Education; he's doing a great job. And we are on to something with this America 2000. And I hope when he finished that you had a feel for this marvelous program.

Our mayors are doing a great job in helping make American education number one. I was hoping today to be with you in person, but at least I can say America has produced two Presidents in a row who have made it to the big screen. This is a good way to do it if you can't be there in person.



It's an honor to join this year's NLC Annual Congress of Cities, even if it is by video hookup, and to salute you soldiers on the front lines. You man the front lines of our assault on falling scores and failing grades in education, our war on drugs, our defense of the American family, and our battle against crime. And you know why we've got to crusade to protect American principles and work to solve America's problems.

As the elected officials out there hearing the needs of day-to-day, ordinary people, you understand those problems. And you know them not from a bureaucrat's safe distance but from the hot seat of an elected official whose neighbors call to complain about roads and taxes and the police. You know. You name it.

Many people wonder how a President can know what goes on outside Washington, especially for families struggling to make ends meet. Well, I have read the letters of people feeling the pinch of a tough economy. As a matter of fact, I've traveled to 48 States since becoming President, talking and meeting people and listening and, yes, learning at every stop. And I've listened to the guidance and advice of leaders, many of whom are right there in that room.

And when I deliver my State of the Union Address in a few weeks, I'm going to ask the Congress to lay aside partisan interest just long enough to focus on America's interest and to enact a commonsense series of economic growth measures. Also, because each additional billion dollars in manufactured goods and trade means another 20,000 American jobs, I'm going to continue fighting to crack open foreign markets to create domestic jobs. And that's the message I'm going to be taking with me on my upcoming trip to Asia. We go down to Australia, Singapore, Korea, and Japan.

In the meantime, I will make sure that our agencies do everything they can to help the people, from getting those unemployment checks out to easing the credit crunch. Already, we've taken steps to help those in need, speeding up a number of Government payments that will put \$9.7 billion into the economy that wouldn't have been there during the first and second quarters of the fiscal year.

And I'm especially proud of the transportation bill which I'll be signing in just a few days that will keep our traffic on the move and our economy on the rise, building roads and fixing bridges and creating jobs.

And still, it isn't enough. We have to build on these beginnings. So I hope our other initiatives are also helping you. For example, our administration has boosted State and local law enforcement funding to \$495 million. That's in addition to the \$250 million in cash and property seized last year from drug dealers through what we call the Asset Forfeiture program. Overall, Federal aid to States and localities to fight drugs has grown under this administration to nearly \$3 billion a year. I think the total spending I jotted down here is \$11.7 billion.

Our Healthy Start program to cut infant mortality got a big boost this year, from \$21 million to \$65 million. And that's also true for AIDS research and treatment. Under the Ryan White Act, \$200 million in AIDS prevention in fiscal '92 goes directly to cities. And I also ask your support of something which can help every city, enterprise zones to unleash a new generation of entrepreneurs to attract new business to those areas.

President Kennedy once said, "We will neglect our cities at our peril, for in neglecting them we neglect the Nation." I do not intend to neglect our cities, nor do I intend to burden them with Washington's version of help: Taxes, rules, regulations, and no money. We've learned the wisdom of keeping government closest to the people. My administration wants to give local power and local responsibility to local officials. We want to free you to do what you do best.

I do want to do my part. To do so, I need your counsel and your wisdom. So let's work together to find new solutions to old problems. Only then can we prepare our cities and our country for the new American century ahead.

It is great to be with you all. I'd be glad to take a couple of questions. But thank you for what you've done. Thank you for what you are doing. And at this special time of year, God bless you all. I just wish that each and every one of you "could have been at the White House yesterday as we welcomed

home those five hostages. I can only say that Barbara and I count our blessings for family every day of the year. And this was a most-moving occasion. And then we took them out to light the Nation's Christmas tree—we modestly call it—across from the White House. And I flipped the electric switch and nothing happened. [Laughter]

But in any event, it was a great and wonderful, moving day for our whole country. And I wish each of you leaders could have been with us in the White House.

And now I'll be glad, Commissioner, to take any questions.

### **War on Drugs**

**Q.** Mr. President, more than 20 years ago, former President Richard Nixon declared a Federal war on drugs. Three years ago, you announced a similar war. Yet today the problem of drugs and drug-related violence on our streets is just as pervasive as ever. In fact, murders are at record levels. Mr. President, we have a very enthusiastic audience here—[laughter]—I wish you were here to see how wonderful this audience is and how concerned this audience is. However, over the last 20-year period, the Federal Government has been unwilling to spend one single dime and send it directly to those of us who are on the front lines that you mentioned.

In the Gulf war you went to the front lines to meet with the troops to ensure that they had the necessary tools and support in order to win. Can we count on you, Mr. President, in your new budget and legislative agenda to provide for direct assistance to cities and towns?

**The President.** Well, let me simply say that from an overall standpoint, fighting the Nation's drug war from an overall standpoint, Federal funding is up by 80 percent since I've become President, 80 percent, to \$11.7 billion. I think it is \$11.7 billion. And nearly \$3 billion will go to State and local governments. I am familiar with the age-old argument as to whether the Governors get it or whether the mayors get it. And I've been around the political track long enough to be aware of it. In our program, we are trying to recognize this and trying to get the job done.

Let me just say, though, you had a very pessimistic assessment of where the matter

stands. And there's plenty of reason to be pessimistic, but there's also some reason to be somewhat optimistic. Drug use amongst the young people have gone off—this awful cocaine amongst young people is down over the last 2 years by something like 11 percent. The war isn't won, but progress is being made.

We're working with a media campaign, all private, they're spending \$1 million a day on advertising which gets right into your communities, trying to educate people against the use of drugs. So in addition to the Government money, that means the taxpayers' money, in addition to the Government money, there is a lot going on. And, frankly, if you canvassed that hall, though everyone could use more funds for fighting drugs, I think that you'd find that a lot of people out there in what we call the volunteer sector are doing an awful lot. We've honored a lot of them here at the White House, and I am terribly impressed by how community action is making an enormous contribution to the fight against drugs.

But yes, in our budget I think you'll see the amount of money I said for State, for local governments, and I also think that you'll see what I would think is pretty full funding, in tough financial times I might add, for the fight against drugs.

Let me give you another side of it that I think is important. We're doing better on the interdiction side as well. Much better on that. And then you mentioned the crime problem. I would like to enlist the support of everybody in that room. You are on the front line. You are on the cutting edge, and I'd like to enlist your support for a tough, a meaningful, tough anti-crime bill. We've been trying to get that through Congress for a long, long time. And again, let's put the politics aside and let's give the support that we need to the police officers that are out there on the beat.

But thank you. It was a good question.

**Q.** Thank you for taking time to be with us, and thank you for the tree you planted 2 years ago in memory of Ryan White. It's still standing in downtown Indianapolis.

**The President.** Is it growing, though? [Laughter]

### **Block Grant Program for Cities**

**Q.** There's a strong feeling here, Mr. President, that when the cities hurt, America hurts, and when the cities are healthy, America is healthy. Many central cities and small towns are facing severe fiscal distress today. Their tax bases have eroded while poverty, crime, and health care needs and demands have accelerated.

We believe the idea of direct assistance to cities and towns from the Federal Government has merit. And the question I would ask you, sir, is: Can we prevail upon you to consider a proposal this year to put together a package of Federal relief for unfunded mandates and targeted fiscal assistance to cities and towns, and would you be willing to meet with a group of local officials to discuss this subject?

**The President.** That was two questions. Bill, you know, and I don't know whether you helped formulate the general idea of an enormous block grant proposal that we have; it's about finished. What we've tried to do on this block grant proposal—I believe it's in the \$15-billion range—was to work it out in a way that it will get support in the Congress. And we've tried to take into consideration some of the congressional concerns without making this block grant into some other mandated program by having a lot of strings attached.

So, we are finalizing now—and it will be ready in time to send up as soon as Congress goes back—a substantial block grant program that will go out there without strings attached, and I believe it will get passed. So, I'm very interested in this. It's taken a long time to get the legislation drafted in a way to answer some of the—well, I'd put it this way—understandable concerns in the Congress. But we're going to be pushing it, and it's going to be a part of our overall economic package.

Inasmuch as you made the request—and I never say no to Hudnut, that's my motto—I think it would be useful to sit down with you and a handful of others that you might bring into the White House to talk about these problems.

I wasn't just, as we say, "blowing smoke" when I made my remarks. We are in touch with mayors. We had the mayor of New York City down here just the other day. Wasn't heralded as a great public relations

event, but I learned from that. A long talk with other mayors as we go along. But bring them in here. We may have to wait until after the first because we're going off, as you know, coming into this marvelous Christmas season, and we might all need a little bit of rest. But I'd like to do it, and you can consider this a formal acceptance of what I thought was a relatively formalized request.

**Q.** Mr. President, and we accept that, and we will be there to visit with you. And we appreciate the time that you have given us this morning. We want to work with you. We're counting on you, as you're counting on us, and let me, on behalf of all of the delegates here this morning, not only once again thank you, but wish you and Mrs. Bush a very happy holiday.

**The President.** Well, same to all of you. And let me end by making one additional comment. These are tough times, and there's a lot of people at work and there's an unsatisfactory number of people out of work. A lot of people are worried. Their confidence is not there. And they worry about tomorrow, even though they have a job today. And I understand all that, and we're going to try in the State of the Union Message to make a proposal that won't make matters worse out of good intentions but will make them better and come forward with a strong program there. I believe we'll have that. I hope it will have the support, enthusiastic support across party lines, not only in the Congress but out there.

But let me just say this at the end of this year, inasmuch as you were gracious and really kind enough to wish Barbara and me a merry Christmas. You know, we have a lot to be grateful for in this wonderful country of ours. I touched on the hostage matter. This morning, I had a long conversation with Boris Yeltsin over in Moscow, and there's great and interesting change going on there.

But the underpinning of that change is freedom, and it is democracy, and it is reform. And you look around at the fact that in this very day in Washington Arabs are talking to Israelis, something that might not have happened. You look abroad and you see the newfound credibility of the United States as a result of what your sons

and daughters did in Desert Storm. The United States can use that credibility now to get into these foreign markets and create jobs and our voice is more credible around the world.

So, I cannot neglect my responsibilities for world peace, for managing on behalf of the only superpower in the world that other countries look to not just for that but because of our values. I'm not going to forsake those responsibilities. But I am going to do what is necessary and stay involved with you at that level that I know so well, in order to try to help alleviate the concerns that I mentioned in the very beginning that the American people have.

Having said that, we have a lot to be grateful for in the United States of America. And thank you for your greetings, and Barbara will appreciate it. And I hope that you and all your families have the best Christmas ever and a wonderfully prosperous, exciting, forward-moving 1992. Good luck to each and every one of you. And thank you for letting me come in this way.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:17 p.m. from Room 459 of the Old Executive Office Building to the annual Congress of Cities, sponsored by the National League of Cities, meeting in Las Vegas, NV. In his remarks, he referred to Glenda E. Hood, first vice president of the National League of Cities; Ryan White, a teenager who died of AIDS in 1990; and Thomas Hudnut, mayor of Indianapolis. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

**Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on a Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement Between Argentina, Brazil, and the International Atomic Energy Agency**  
*December 13, 1991*

The President has congratulated Presidents Menem and Collor for their statesmanship in signing a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Presidents Collor and Menem have shown great energy and leadership in fulfilling the commitments they undertook in the November

1990 declaration in Foz do Iguacu to devote their nuclear programs exclusively to peaceful purposes and to submit all their nuclear activities to IAEA safeguards.

This action will contribute greatly to peace and stability in the Western Hemisphere and throughout the world. We wish Presidents Menem and Collor continued success as they work toward the final objective of the Iguacu declaration: The full entry into force of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in their national territories. We call on all nations that need to take steps for the Treaty to enter into force throughout Latin America to do so at an early date, freeing the continent from the dangers of a nuclear arms race.

*Note: The statement referred to President Carlos Saúl Menem of Argentina and President Fernando Collor de Mello of Brazil.*

**Proclamation 6392—Bicentennial of the District of Columbia Month, 1991**  
*December 13, 1991*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Although it encompasses just 10 square miles, the District of Columbia contains a vast wealth of history and culture—a legacy that befits our Nation's Capital. This year, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our remarkable Federal city.

Conceived by the Framers of our Constitution, who provided for the establishment of a special district to serve "as the Seat of the Government of the United States," our Nation's Capital began to take shape in 1791. In January of that year, a site was selected for the city under the direction of President George Washington. The following month Andrew Ellicot and Benjamin Banneker, a successful black farmer who was self-taught in engineering, mathematics, and other fields, began to survey the terrain.

Plans for the actual layout of the city reflected the exuberance, pride, and optimism of our young Republic. When he submitted his design to the Congress in December 1791, Major Pierre L'Enfant included numerous provisions for parks, fountains, and wide, sweeping avenues—all reflecting

a vision as grand and as ambitious as the American experiment itself.

Over the years, a number of our Nation's leaders took great personal interest in the development of the Federal city. Thomas Jefferson offered advice and sketches for its design, and it was his idea to build a large mall extending from the foot of the hill on which our magnificent United States Capitol now stands. Today the Mall in Washington is surrounded by monuments and museums that honor the brilliant thinkers and brave heroes who have defined and defended the American ideals of liberty and self-government. Many of the museums in our Nation's Capital also contain vast collections of American art and folklore, as well as fascinating displays of U.S. achievements in science, industry, and aviation.

As the seat of government of the United States for 200 years, our Nation's Capital has become a center of American culture and a world-renowned symbol of freedom and democracy. Here is where President John Adams and his successors continued the work that President George Washington and the First Congress had begun in New York. Here is where President Abraham Lincoln labored to preserve our Union; and here is where the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., led the historic march that energized the civil rights movement and reminded America of its promise of liberty and justice for all. Much of our Nation's history has marched through Washington, D.C., and today that journey continues as we engage in the day-to-day process of democratic government.

While our Nation's Capital belongs to all Americans, this occasion is a very special one for the residents of the District of Columbia. Many families have lived in the city for generations, and this bicentennial is also a celebration of their roots.

At the end of the Civil War, thousands of African Americans came to Washington, making the city a virtual symbol of emancipation and progress. Their accomplishments, reflected in the growth of institutions such as Howard University, helped pave the way for countless others. Today residents of the District of Columbia continue to make outstanding contributions in education, business, science, and the arts. On this occasion, all Americans join them in

celebrating 200 years of history and achievement.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 356, has designated December 1991 as "Bicentennial of the District of Columbia Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this month.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim December 1991 as Bicentennial of the District of Columbia Month. I invite all Americans to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:31 a.m., December 16, 1991]

*Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on December 17.*

### **Proclamation 6393—Year of Clean Water, 1992, and Clean Water Month, 1992**

*December 13, 1991*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Water is essential to every form of life on Earth. Indeed, this vital substance unites our planet's ecosystems, the miraculous yet fragile relationships in nature that sustain each other as well as all human activity. Recognizing the importance of our precious water resources, the United States has made a firm commitment to protecting their physical, chemical, and biological integrity. This year, the 20th anniversary of the Clean Water Act reminds us that we are all stewards of our water resources, and, as such, we are responsible for their preservation and wise use.

Since the enactment of the Clean Water Act in 1972, we have achieved remarkable

improvements in many of our Nation's water resources. Twenty years ago, less than half of America's rivers supported fish and shellfish or provided wildlife habitat. Fishing and swimming were restricted in many areas, and drinking water supplies were threatened. Today, however, nearly three-fourths of the Nation's waters support these uses, and many others have significantly improved in quality. Fish and waterfowl have returned to many of our rivers, lakes, and coastal waters.

We have taken great strides during the past two decades, primarily by controlling pollution from sewage treatment plants and industrial facilities. Recent advances in science and technology have enabled us to engage in more effective studies of water pollution—its causes and its effects. These studies, which have often revealed the magnitude of previously underestimated problems, have led to more vigorous and innovative antipollution measures. At the same time, public awareness of the importance of clean water has also increased; now there is more support than ever for protecting and enhancing water quality.

While we can take pride in this progress, many challenges remain. Urban and industrial growth are creating additional sources of pollution while placing increased demands on limited water resources. Contaminated runoff from farmlands as well as city streets is, all too often, degrading our waters and damaging ecosystems. Scientists continue to detect unacceptable levels of pollutants in many bodies of water and in the tissues of finfish and shellfish. All Americans must continue to work together to protect our water resources and the wildlife that depends on them.

We have already discerned the need for new and innovative solutions. Indeed, today we know that the health of aquatic ecosystems must be examined holistically, to determine how various forms of human activity affect water quality. We know that we must protect entire watersheds that feed into our rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. We also recognize that, by preventing pollution at the source, we can protect watersheds and avoid the high economic and environmental costs of treating wastes and restoring ecosystems after pollution has already occurred. Moreover, experience has

shown us that our actions must be based on sound science.

The 20th anniversary of the Clean Water Act marks an important milestone in the history of American environmental protection. However, just as water links each of our planet's ecosystems, water pollution recognizes no boundaries. All Americans and their representatives in all levels of government must work together to promote wise stewardship of this, our "water planet." We must also foster greater cooperation in the international community.

As an expression of our national commitment to these goals, the Congress, by Public Law 101-424, has designated 1992 as the "Year of Clean Water" and October 1992 as "Clean Water Month."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim 1992 as the Year of Clean Water and October 1992 as Clean Water Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this year and month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. I also ask my fellow Americans to join in setting examples of environmental stewardship in our daily lives.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

*[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:34 a.m., December 16, 1991]*

*Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on December 17.*

**Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater  
on the President's Telephone  
Conversation With President  
Gorbachev**

*December 13, 1991*

President Bush spoke by telephone this afternoon with President Gorbachev concerning events in the Soviet Union and the Republics. The nearly 30-minute conversa-

tion ranged over several issues including the economy, the status of the Commonwealth effort, the safety of nuclear weapons, and other issues. President Gorbachev assured President Bush that the command and control system for nuclear weapons remains secure. President Bush had received similar assurances from President Yeltsin in a telephone call at 10:50 a.m. this morning.

President Bush assured both Presidents of support for humanitarian and medical needs. He summarized the United States program of support, including the loan guarantees, direct aid, and financial assistance in the elimination of nuclear weapons. President Bush emphasized once again our general support for democratic and economic reforms.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders on Naming Don E. Newquist as Chairman-Designate of the U.S. International Trade Commission**

*December 13, 1991*

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

Pursuant to the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1330(c)(1), this is to notify the Congress that I have designated Don E. Newquist as Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, effective December 13, 1991.

Sincerely,

**George Bush**

*Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate.*

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**Points of Light Recognition Program**

*The President named the following individuals and institutions as exemplars of his commitment to making community service central to the life and work of every American.*

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*December 7*

*Pioneer Potlatch, of The Dalles, OR*

*December 9*

*Jewish Family Service of Colorado, of Denver, CO*

*December 10*

*Reinette Greaves, of Attleboro Falls, MA*

*December 11*

*William Foster, of Brush Prairie, WA*

*December 12*

*Nguyet Lam, of Atlanta, GA*

*December 13*

*Community Kitchen, of Chattanooga, TN*

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**Digest of Other White House Announcements**

*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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*December 7*

In the morning, the President met with Pearl Harbor survivors of U.S.S. *Arizona* and U.S.S. *Utah*.

Later in the morning, the President had an interview with CBS and a briefing with U.S. Ambassadors to Pacific Rim countries.

The President declared a major disaster exists in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Typhoon Zelda on November 28 and 29, 1991.

*December 8*

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to the White House. Later in the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Republic.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush attended the John F. Kennedy Center Honors performing arts achievement awards ceremony.

**December 9**

The President met at the White House with:

- the Vice President; John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- Mother Teresa.

The President announced his intention to designate Ralph W. Tarr, of California, to be U.S. Commissioner on the Upper Colorado River Commission. He would succeed J.F. Ross. Currently Mr. Tarr serves as partner with the law firm of Andrews & Kurth in Los Angeles, CA.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be members of the Advisory Committee on the Arts, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:

**Candace Somerville**, of the District of Columbia. She would succeed Ann Rydalph. Currently Ms. Somerville serves as assistant vice president of Begg International in Washington, DC.

**Helen V. Meyer**, of Kansas. She would succeed Harriet Slaybaugh. Currently Ms. Meyer serves as a director of the Wichita Symphony Association and of the Wichita Music Theatre in Wichita, KS.

**Mary Welch Rogers**, of Georgia. She would succeed Julie P. Montgomery. Ms. Rogers is a Catholic contemporary Christian artist in Atlanta, GA.

**Henry J. Smith**, of Texas. He would succeed Eileen S. S. G. Slocum. Currently Mr. Smith serves as chairman of Clark Bards, Inc., in Dallas, TX.

**Marcia Poulsen Price**, of Utah. She would succeed John Piercey. Currently Ms. Price serves as a board member on the Utah Arts Council and on the Governor's Executive Residence Commission in Salt Lake City, UT.

**H. E. Monroe, Jr.**, of Alabama. This is an initial appointment. From 1970 to 1986, Mr. Monroe served as president and chief executive officer of the Monroe Business Equipment Co. in Huntsville, AL.

**December 10**

In the morning, the President traveled to Chicago, IL.

In the afternoon, the President returned to the White House.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted the Congressional Christmas ball on the State Floor at the White House.

The President announced his intention to appoint Edwin D. Brubeck, of Indiana, to be Chairman of the Federal Service Impasses Disputes Panel. Since 1976, Mr. Brubeck has served as a business representative on the Indiana State Building Trades Council in Indianapolis, IN.

The President announced his intention to appoint David F. Egan, of Connecticut, to be a U.S. Commissioner on the Council and Commissions of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization. He would succeed Frank Eberle Carlton. Since 1982, Mr. Egan has served as a public defender for the Judicial District of Ansonia/Milford in Milford, CT.

The President announced his intention to appoint Avery C. Faulkner, of Virginia, to be a member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for a term expiring June 10, 1995. This is a reappointment. Currently Mr. Faulkner serves as a senior partner with Avery Faulkner, FAIA in Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster exists in the Federated States of Micronesia and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Typhoon Yuri on November 25 through November 29, 1991.

**December 11**

The President met at the White House with:

- the Vice President; John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- John H. Sununu;
- Secretary of State James A. Baker III;
- James A. Baker III, Robert S. Strauss, Ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Brent Scowcroft.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a Christmas reception on the State Floor at the White House.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be members of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission:



**William M. Ray**, of Oregon. He would succeed Jane Lee Garcia. Since 1986, Mr. Ray has served on the Economic Development Committee of the Klamath Tribe in Portland, OR.

**John B. Tsu**, of California. He would succeed Lee Collins. From 1985 to 1986, Dr. Tsu served as a professor and director of the Asian Pacific Institute of the John F. Kennedy University in Burlingame, CA.

**Mary Jane Checchi**, of the District of Columbia. This is a reappointment.

**Ricardo S. Pines**, of Florida. He would succeed James J. O'Connor. Currently Mr. Pines serves as president of the Pines Group, Inc., in Coral Gables, FL.

#### December 12

The President met at the White House with:

- the Vice President; John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- John H. Sununu;
- Select Senate Republicans;
- Prime Minister Constantinos Mitsotakis of Greece, for lunch.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a Christmas reception on the State Floor at the White House.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Dallas/Fort Worth, TX, on Wednesday, December 18, to sign the surface transportation bill and address the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

#### December 13

The President met at the White House with:

- the Vice President; John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- John H. Sununu;
- private sector health care groups;
- Secretary of State James A. Baker III;
- Prime Minister Andre Milongo of the Republic of the Congo;
- the Vice President, for lunch.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush attended the Diplomatic Corps Christmas tea on the State Floor at the White House.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD, for the weekend.

The President designated Don E. Newquist as Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission for the term expiring June 16, 1992. Mr. Newquist has served as a member of the Commission since October 11, 1988.

The President declared a major disaster exists in the Territory of American Samoa and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Val on December 6 through December 10, 1991.

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#### Nominations Submitted to the Senate

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*Note: The Congress having adjourned sine die on Wednesday, November 27, no nominations were submitted during the period covered by this issue. The second session of the 102d Congress will convene on January 3, 1992.*

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#### Checklist of White House Press Releases

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*The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.*

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#### Released December 7

Advance text:  
Remarks during the Pearl Harbor Survivors ceremony

Advance text:  
Remarks during the 50th Commemorative ceremony of Pearl Harbor

***Released December 7*** —Continued

Advance text:  
Remarks to World War II Veterans and families

***Released December 9***

Fact sheet:  
High-Performance Computing and Communications

***Released December 12***

Transcript:  
Press briefing on the meeting with Prime Minister Constantinos Mitsotakis of Greece—by Ambassador Thomas Niles, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs

Transcript:  
Press briefing on the negotiations on the North American free trade agreement—by Ambassador Carla Hills, U.S. Trade Representative

***Released December 13***

Transcript:  
Press briefing on the Soviet Union and the Republics—by Secretary of State James A. Baker III

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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***Approved December 9***

S. 272 / Public Law 102-194  
High-Performance Computing Act of 1991

H.R. 1988 / Public Law 102-195  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1992

H.R. 3370 / Public Law 102-196  
To direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study and make recommendations to the Congress regarding the feasibility of establishing a Native American cultural center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

***Approved December 9*** —Continued

H.J. Res. 346 / Public Law 102-197  
Approving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment with respect to the products of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

S. 1284 / Public Law 102-198  
To make certain technical corrections in the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 and other provisions of law relating to the courts

***Approved December 10***

H.R. 525 / Public Law 102-199  
To amend the Federal charter for the Boys' Clubs of America to reflect the change of the name of the organization to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America

H.R. 829 / Public Law 102-200  
To amend title 28, United States Code, to make changes in the composition of the Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia

H.R. 848 / Public Law 102-201  
Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument

H.R. 990 / Public Law 102-202  
To authorize additional appropriations for land acquisition at Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland

H.R. 3322 / Public Law 102-203  
To designate the building in St. Louis, Missouri, which is currently known as the Wellston Station, as the "Gwen B. Giles Post Office Building"

H.R. 3531 / Public Law 102-204  
Patent and Trademark Office Authorization Act of 1991

H.R. 3709 / Public Law 102-205  
To waive the period of Congressional review for certain District of Columbia acts

H.J. Res. 191 / Public Law 102-206  
Designating January 5, 1992 through January 11, 1992 as "National Law Enforcement Training Week"

***Approved December 10*** —Continued

H.J. Res. 212 / Public Law 102-207  
To designate the week beginning February 16, 1992, as "National Visiting Nurse Associations Week"

H.J. Res. 300 / Public Law 102-208  
Designating the month of May 1992 as "National Trauma Awareness Month"

H.J. Res. 356 / Public Law 102-209  
Designating December 1991 as "Bicentennial of the District of Columbia Month"

H.J. Res. 372 / Public Law 102-210  
Designating December 21, 1991, as "Basketball Centennial Day"

***Approved December 11***

H.R. 690 / Public Law 102-211  
To authorize the National Park Service to acquire and manage the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site, and for other purposes

H.R. 794 / Public Law 102-212  
To establish the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge along the Connecticut River, and for other purposes

H.R. 948 / Public Law 102-213  
To designate the United States courthouse located at 120 North Henry Street in Madison, Wisconsin, as the "Robert W. Kastenmeier United States Courthouse"

H.R. 1099 / Public Law 102-214  
Lamprey River Study Act of 1991

H.R. 3012 / Public Law 102-215  
White Clay Creek Study Act

H.R. 3169 / Public Law 102-216  
To lengthen from five to seven years the expiration period applicable to legislative authority relating to construction of commemorative works on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs

H.R. 3245 / Public Law 102-217  
Chattahoochee National Forest Protection Act of 1991

***Approved December 11*** —Continued

H.R. 3327 / Public Law 102-218  
To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs as the Chief Minority Affairs Officer of the Department

H.R. 3387 / Public Law 102-219  
To amend the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Act of 1972 to authorize appropriations for implementation of the development plan for Pennsylvania Avenue between the Capitol and the White House, and for other purposes

H.R. 3604 / Public Law 102-220  
Green Spring Acquisition and Protection Act of 1991

H.R. 3932 / Public Law 102-221  
To improve the operational efficiency of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, and for other purposes

S. 2050 / Public Law 102-222  
To ensure that the ceiling established with respect to health education assistance loans does not prohibit the provision of Federal loan insurance to new and previous borrowers under such loan program, and for other purposes

S. 2098 / Public Law 102-223  
To authorize the President to appoint Major General Jerry Ralph Curry to the Office of Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration

S.J. Res. 198 / Public Law 102-224  
To recognize contributions Federal civilian employees provided during the attack on Pearl Harbor and during World War II

H.R. 3881 / Public Law 102-225  
To expand the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield, Tennessee, and for other purposes

H.R. 2105 / Public Law 102-226  
To designate an area as the "Myrtle Foester Whitmire Division of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge"

***Approved December 11***—Continued

H.R. 3909 / Public Law 102-227  
Tax Extension Act of 1991

S. 159 / Private Law 102-1  
For the relief of Maria Erica Bartski

***Approved December 12***

H.R. 3807 / Public Law 102-228  
Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty Implementation Act of 1991

H.J. Res. 157 / Public Law 102-229  
Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations and Transfers for Relief From the Effects of Natural Disasters, for Other Urgent Needs, and for Incremental Cost of 'Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm' Act of 1992

H.R. 3576 / Public Law 102-230  
To amend the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to reserve assistance under the HOME Investment Partnerships Act for certain insular areas

H.R. 1476 / Public Law 102-231  
San Carlos Indian Irrigation Project Divestiture Act of 1991

***Approved December 12***—Continued

H.R. 3049 / Public Law 102-232  
Miscellaneous and Technical Immigration and Naturalization Amendments of 1991

H.R. 3435 / Public Law 102-233  
Resolution Trust Corporation Refinancing, Restructuring, and Improvement Act of 1991

H.R. 3595 / Public Law 102-234  
Medicaid Voluntary Contribution and Provider-Specific Tax Amendments of 1991

S. 367 / Public Law 102-235  
Nontraditional Employment for Women Act

S. 1532 / Public Law 102-236  
Abandoned Infants Assistance Act Amendments of 1991

H.R. 635 / Private Law 102-2  
For the relief of Abby Cooke

***Approved December 13***

H.R. 3029 / Public Law 102-237  
Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act Amendments of 1991



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