

Proclamation 6525—National Day of Fellowship and Hope

January 20, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As I assume the office of President, I stand humbly before God and ask for His guidance and blessings for our great Nation. At the same time, I ask the citizens of America to join me in renewing our commitment to the American ideals of fellowship and hope.

The obligation of a President is more than the fulfillment of a set of constitutional duties. The President must carry the mantle of hope and optimism in the battle against fear and despair. I ask that every American help as we attempt, in the words of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., “to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope” and “transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.”

We must always remember that the essence of our democracy is the recognition that we are united in a common purpose, working toward a common good.

In renewing our commitment to fellowship throughout our great Nation, we recall the spirit of Thomas Jefferson, who said on the occasion of his first inaugural address, “Let us, then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind. Let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things.”

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 22, 1993, a National Day of Fellowship and Hope and call upon the citizens of this great Nation to reflect on their obligations to their fellow Americans and look forward to the challenges of the new year with a spirit of hope.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the

United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on January 22.

Remarks at the Inaugural Luncheon

January 20, 1993

Thank you very much, Senator Ford, Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader Gephardt, Senator Mitchell, Senator Dole, Representative Michel. I’d like to begin by saying I didn’t get much sleep last night, and if I get through this it will be tour de force. Al Gore and I stayed up a long time talking last night about this day and this country and what we hoped that we could do.

I want to say first how very grateful I am to the Congress for the exertions here to make this Inaugural Day such a meaningful and wonderful one. I would like to especially thank Senator Ford who worked so hard to make sure everything went off without a hitch. And he did.

I also thank you for the wonderful gift of crystal, the letter opener, which I will treasure always, that proved that we did get enough electoral votes to be here today.

And Mr. Speaker, I’m delighted to have that key. However, with all respect, I can’t believe you were fully briefed about my proclivities in lobbying legislators to let me come up here without an invitation. [*Laughter*] I may be here all the time. [*Laughter*] Why, just when you said you wished me well in untangling my relationships with Congress, my head, almost as if by magic, tilted in Senator Dole’s direction. [*Laughter*]

I make two serious points. Once in a generation we really are called upon to redefine the public interests and the common ground. I honestly do believe much of what we have to do today is work that knows no necessary partisan label and does not fall easily within the conventional divisions of liberal and conservative or Republican and Democrat.

The second point I wish to make is that I cannot succeed as President unless Congress itself succeeds and the American people like the Congress again, too. For I seek to do, and to do we have to work together and move forward together.

So I would like, in gratitude and respect, to propose a toast to a new partnership in America's Government.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:20 p.m. in Statuary Hall at the Capitol. Prior to his remarks, Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, presented the President with a key to the Capitol. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message to the Congress on Adjustment of the National Deficit

January 21, 1993

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 254(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended ("Act") (2 U.S.C. 904(c)), notification is hereby provided of my decision that the adjustment of the maximum deficit amount, as allowed under section 253(g)(1)(B) of the Act (2 U.S.C. 903(g)(1)(B)), shall be made.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 21, 1993.

NOTE: The White House released the following statement by the Director of Communications George Stephanopoulos on adjustment of the national deficit:

As provided by the law, the President has today notified the congressional leadership of technical adjustments to be made in calculating the national deficit.

This procedure, which occurred automatically under the previous administration for 3 fiscal years, prevents across-the-board budget reductions in accounts such as national defense that could equal 11 percent in the beginning of the next fiscal year.

A failure to make this adjustment would also undermine the credibility of economic and budget estimates.

President Clinton will soon put before the Congress a real economic program aimed at reducing the deficit and providing long-term economic growth.

Remarks to Groups from the Inaugural Parade

January 21, 1993

The President. Thank you. One of the first lessons that I was told to learn about becoming President is that the President could not fix all the problems in America. [Laughter] But this is pretty close to fixing the float breaking down, don't you think?

I want to make sure that I have properly acknowledged all the groups that are here, so I want to call your names, and you raise your hand if you're in one of these groups. Who's here from the Sounds of Silence in Canton, Ohio? [Applause] Thank you. I'd also like to say I'm glad to see Senators Glenn and Metzenbaum here. Give them a hand. [Applause] Who's here from the Boy Singers of Maine? [Applause] From my alma mater, the Georgetown Chimes? [Applause] And the Georgetown Grace Notes? [Applause] And from Hillary's alma mater, the Wellesley Widows? [Applause]

Hillary Clinton. Just two left. They all had to go back to school.

The President. Two hung in there to be represented tonight. [Laughter] I'm very sorry about what happened yesterday, but I'm glad you're all here today.

Anybody want to sing me a quick song?

Hillary Clinton. Let's start in order.

The President. All right, we'll start in order. The Sounds of Silence go first.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:45 p.m. on the State Floor at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.