

conomic indicators, but it will be substantial to several areas.

And the other is to outline a 5-year investment plan which will increase our investment in infrastructure, which will have a defense conversion plan, and which will attempt to address these very serious problems that are killing small business, namely controlling health costs and providing basic health care to all Americans and trying to break open the credit crunch.

If you think about it, two best things I could do for you are both indirect. If we could bring health costs in line with inflation and get banks to lending again, economic activity would pick up among people who would then pay taxes to your local government, and you could take that money and do what you need to do.

The best thing I could do for the private sector, if we could bring health costs in line with inflation between now and the year 2000, we would save the private sector 2½ times as much as the public purse, freeing hundreds of billions of dollars a year to be reinvested in the economies of this country.

So, what I'm going to try to do is just that. It's never been done before in this country, having to bring down the deficit and increase investment at the same time. It's going to require some very tough choices. I spent 2 hours yesterday trying to cut the budget in areas that I thought were inessential in order to free up monies that would be invested. And obviously most of our investment money goes directly back to State and local government.

I'm sure that a lot of you will wish we were spending more. But let me say that it is critical, I'm convinced, that we show some discipline in bringing down this deficit, because every point we drop long-term interest rates frees up \$50 billion for new investment in this economy.

So I'm going to try to spend more in terms of investment and reduce the deficit, which means I'm going to have to cut consumption even more. And we're working on it. And I hope we can work together closely, and we can do a very good job together.

One of the things that I've been impressed with—Secretary Cisneros' work over at the Department—is he came back saying what a lot of our Secretaries have been saying. He

said, "This thing's not working very well." We got all this money out there that's not even being spent. We've got \$6 billion in the pipeline. We got \$3.1 billion that's been approved that's going to take 4 months too long to get out there. We've got this home program; nobody can access the money because of the administrative problems. So, we can keep you busy for a year or so if we just run the Department right.

And we're going to do our best to do that. I think the floor is now yours.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:26 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Maynard Jackson, Mayor of Atlanta. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Certification of Major Narcotics Producing and Transit Countries

February 5, 1993

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with section 490(h) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA), I am submitting a list of countries which, as of January 1, 1993, have been determined to be major illicit drug producing and drug transit countries. These countries have been selected on the basis of information from the March 1, 1992, International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR) and from other U.S. Government sources. The list of countries is identical to the one submitted by the Secretary of State on October 1, 1992, pursuant to the provisions of section 481(k)(3) (now repealed) of the FAA and using the definition of a major illicit drug producing country and a major drug transit country given in sections 481(i) (2) and (5) of the same law.

The International Narcotics Control Act of 1992 (INCA) amended the FAA on November 2, 1992, by changing the reporting date to January 1, 1993, and by suspending the sections 481(i) (2) and (5) definitions for fiscal years 1993 and 1994. In fiscal year 1995 the section 481(i) definitions will again apply. Since

the section 481(i) definitions, however, have provided a generally sound and consistent basis for classifying major drug producing and transit countries, we will continue to use them with some practical adjustments to take into account more accurate measurement techniques and the effect on the illicit U.S. drug market. We will not add or remove countries to or from the major drug producers list until we have our own confirmation that conditions in the country so warrant.

We expect to revise the list during 1993 based on information in the next International Narcotics Control Strategy Report and survey information. At this time, there are reports that there may be significant illicit cultivation of opium poppies in Vietnam and in the former Soviet Central Asian republics. When we complete the relevant surveys of these countries, we will decide whether the data justify their inclusion on the list.

The following countries are subject to certification on narcotics cooperation: The Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela, Afghanistan, India, Iran, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Burma, China, Hong Kong, Laos, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to William H. Natcher, chairman, House Committee on Appropriations; Robert C. Byrd, chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Claiborne Pell, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and Lee H. Hamilton, chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Statement on the Withdrawal of Kimba Wood as a Candidate for Attorney General

February 5, 1993

I understand and respect Judge Wood's decision not to proceed further with the possibility of being nominated as Attorney General. I was greatly impressed with her as a lawyer, a judge, and a person. I respect her legal talents, judicial record, and integrity. I wish her well.

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.

January 30

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton went to Camp David, MD, for a retreat with the Cabinet and White House senior staff members.

January 31

In the afternoon, after the conclusion of the retreat with the Cabinet and White House senior staff members, the President returned to the White House from Camp David, MD.

February 1

In the morning, the President participated in CIA and national security briefings at the White House.

February 2

In the morning, the President participated in CIA and national security briefings at the White House. Later, he met with Democratic congressional leaders at the Capitol.

In the afternoon, the President met with economic advisers.

February 3

In the morning, the President participated in CIA and national security briefings at the White House.

February 4

In the morning, the President participated in CIA and national security briefings. Later, he met with House Democratic congressional leaders at the Capitol.

In the afternoon, the President met at the White House with:

- Senator Dianne Feinstein;
- Girl Scouts from Los Angeles, CA;
- women athletes representing the Women's Sports Foundation on National Girls and Women in Sports Day;
- freshmen Members of Congress.