

these countries are having. I do not want to see the United States go the way of the European countries that are now living with 10 percent unemployment. And by the way, we can't afford to do it, because we don't provide health care. We don't provide the supports they do. It's tougher for people in this country when they're unemployed than it is in Europe or Japan. So we don't provide that kind of support services. And the Japanese unemployment rate, I might say, is still about half what ours is, actually slightly less than half.

We have got to do something to create the jobs. And I'm just going to do the very best job I can. And in terms of how to spend my time and how to do it, I'm going to have to assess that over the next couple of days.

Thank you.

Q. Speaking of cuts, what kind of razor are you using?

The President. I got this playing with my daughter, I'm ashamed to say, rolling around acting like a child again. I reaffirm that I'm not a kid anymore.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:40 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. H.R. 904, approved April 7, was assigned Public Law No. 103-13. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Signing Enabling Legislation for the National Commission To Ensure a Strong Competitive Airline Industry

April 7, 1993

Today I am signing into law H.R. 904, a bill providing for appointments to the "National Commission to Ensure a Strong Competitive Airline Industry." I am pleased to have the opportunity to join with the Congress so quickly in the new session in this effort to gain a fuller understanding of the difficulties facing the Nation's aviation industry—both airlines and aircraft manufacturing.

The recent experience of the aviation industry has not been good. Unemployment in the airline industry has reached record levels over the past few years. The backlog of new

orders for aircraft has shrunk, leading to unemployment in the aircraft manufacturing industry as well. When I visited the Boeing Corporation in Everett, Washington, managers and employees alike described the personal impact of these developments.

The issues facing the industry have an international dimension. In recent remarks at the American University here in Washington, I stressed that our Nation is ready to compete in the world economy fairly and squarely. In our bilateral and multilateral aviation negotiations, my Administration will promote fair competition in international trade and airline routes.

I asked Secretary of Transportation Peña to join with the Congress to develop a process for addressing the industry's problems, and I am pleased by this strong bipartisan result. The aviation industry is important not only to our economy, but (as Operation Desert Storm demonstrated just 2 years ago) to our national defense as well. The information and recommendations developed by the Commission will assist us in building a consensus from the many competing views on how government and industry can best work together to address the aviation industry's current difficulties.

I am pleased that this legislation accelerates the deadline for the Commission's report. I have asked Secretary Peña, working with the rest of the Cabinet, to do everything possible to get the Commission up and running quickly. I look forward to receiving the Commission's report within 90 days after appointments to the Commission are completed.

I note that the House Subcommittee on Aviation has already begun to assemble a record of the relevant issues during its hearings in February. With concerted effort by all parties, this Commission can provide valuable, timely answers.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 7, 1993.

NOTE: H.R. 904, approved April 7, was assigned Public Law No. 103-13.

Announcement of Nomination for Two Ambassadorial Posts

April 7, 1993

The President announced today his nomination of Marshall McCallie to be Ambassador to Namibia, and his intention to nominate John Schmidt to the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as the Uruguay Round Coordinator. In that position, Mr. Schmidt will be the chief U.S. negotiator for the Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"These are two key appointments," said the President. "The Uruguay round of the GATT talks is vital to our hopes for freer and fairer trade in the world. Likewise, our relationship with Namibia is key as we seek to promote democracy in southern Africa. I am very happy with the choices of John Schmidt and Marshall McCallie to fill those roles."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Announcement of Nomination for Sub-Cabinet Posts at the Department of the Treasury

April 8, 1993

The President intends to nominate George Munoz to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Management and Chief Financial Officer, the White House announced today. The President also expressed his approval of Secretary Bentsen's choices for three positions. Joyce Carrier, Joan Logue-Kinder, and Marina Weiss will serve as Deputy Assistant Secretaries with responsibility for Public Liaison, Public Affairs, and Health, respectively.

"George Munoz has excelled in a variety of ways in both the private and public sectors," said the President. "I am confident that he and the rest of Lloyd Bentsen's team at Treasury will keep that key Department running smoothly."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Proclamation 6541—National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, 1993

April 9, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As Americans enter a new era that holds prospects for greater international cooperation and the expansion of democracy's reach, we are deeply indebted to the Armed Forces of the United States. We recognize that their service helped our Nation preserve liberty through two World Wars and the testing regional conflicts of the Cold War era and since. We remember how their sacrifices helped to maintain our way of life and safeguard freedom's cause.

The sacrifices made by our military personnel take many forms, from their willingness to serve, to their countless acts of selfless courage, to the expenditure by hundreds of thousands in this century of that last, full measure of devotion in behalf of their country. Today, we honor the particular sacrifice of the thousands of Americans who have been captured and held as prisoners of war—in Europe and the Pacific, in Korea and Vietnam, in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm, and elsewhere.

We know that many of our men and women in uniform have been subject to brutal torture and inhumane deprivation. The treatment they endured too often violated fundamental standards of morality and stood in stark contravention of international treaties and customs governing the treatment of prisoners of war. Many of these brave Americans were disabled or died as a result of such treatment. Their experiences underscore our debt to those who place their lives in harm's way and stand willing to trade their liberty for ours. As a Nation, we must always remember the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform and their families.

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 April 9, 1993, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day.