

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Proclamation 6588—National
D.A.R.E. Day, 1993 and 1994**
September 9, 1993

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

America's young people face some daunting challenges. One of the most difficult decisions they have to make is whether or not to use drugs. The signals they receive in this country, where only 5 percent of the world's population consumes approximately 50 percent of the world's illegal drugs, often encourage them to gamble away their future on the false security of momentary escape.

In the knowledge-based world of today, their future, as well as the future of America, rests on education. The successes in Europe and Asia have taught us that the nation most equipped to compete in the 21st century will be the nation that can best educate its children. Our students must be properly prepared to enter school and encouraged to complete their studies. They must be taught responsibility for themselves and their community. They must be first in math and science, as well as in literacy and vocational skills. Perhaps most important, they must be given safe classrooms, where they are free to hope for a bright future and where they are not bound in fear to a dark present.

Our National Education Goals were formulated to give America's educators, parents, and students solid objectives in the field of education. Goal 6 of the National Education Goals demands that we develop safe, disciplined, and drug-free schools by the year 2000. My Goals 2000: Educate America Act provides the framework for our educators to reach all of these goals, but until we are successful at achieving Goal 6, we will be unable to implement any of our other education objectives.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), a program developed by the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los An-

geles Unified School District to prevent drug use, now reaches 25 million students from Kindergarten to 12th grade in all 50 states. This program also touches youth in Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Canada, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil, Hungary, and Department of Defense Dependent Schools worldwide.

Taught by veteran police officers, D.A.R.E. aims to prevent substance abuse among school-age children by providing accurate information about alcohol and drugs, by teaching decision-making skills, by educating students about the consequences of their actions, and by building self-esteem. Our students often need the influence and attention of these dedicated officers to combat the peer pressure they face every day on the streets.

In recognition of this anti-drug program's promotion of cooperation among law enforcement, schools, officials, students, and parents, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 99, has designated September 9, 1993, and April 21, 1994, as "National D.A.R.E. Day" and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of these days.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 9, 1993, and April 21, 1994, as National D.A.R.E. Day. I call upon the people of the United States, government officials, educators, and volunteers to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of September, 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 eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 10, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 13.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders
September 10, 1993

Israeli-Palestinian Declaration

Q. Mr. President, are you going to invite Arafat and Rabin to the ceremonies on Monday?

The President. The parties will decide, as they've made all the other decisions, who will come to the ceremony. Whatever their decision is is fine with me.

Q. Can you give us an idea of what the United States is prepared to do to help this agreement work?

The President. I'll be talking a little more about that later, and I'll have a statement as soon as this meeting is over. I want to talk to the Members here about it first.

Q. Well, can you give us an idea of what this meeting is all about?

The President. Well, we're going to brief them on—the Secretary of State and I are—about, obviously, our strong support for the agreement, what America's responsibilities will be, what our allies and friends around the world are interested in doing about it, and where we go from here.

NOTE: The exchange began at 9:18 a.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks on the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration and an Exchange With Reporters

September 10, 1993

The President. Ladies and gentleman, today marks a shining moment of hope for the people of the Middle East and, indeed, of the entire world. The Israelis and the Palestinians have now agreed upon a declaration of principles on interim self-government that opens the door to a comprehensive and lasting settlement.

This declaration represents an historic and honorable compromise between two peoples who have been locked in a bloody struggle for almost a century. Too many have suffered for too long. The agreement is a bold break-

through. The Palestinian Liberation Organization openly and unequivocally has renounced the use of violence and has pledged to live in peace with Israel. Israel, in turn, has announced its recognition of the PLO.

I want to express my congratulations and praise for the courage and the vision displayed by the Israeli and Palestinian leadership and for the crucially helpful role played by Norway.

For too long the history of the Middle East has been defined in terms of violence and bloodshed. Today marks the dawning of a new era. Now there is an opportunity to define the future of the Middle East in terms of reconciliation and coexistence and the opportunities that children growing up there will have whether they are Israeli or Palestinian.

I want to express the full support of the United States for this dramatic and promising step. For more than a quarter of a century our Nation has been directly engaged in efforts to resolve the Middle East conflict. We have done so because it reflects our finest values and our deepest interests, our interests in a stable Middle East where Israelis and Arabs can live together in harmony and develop the potential of their region, which is tremendous. From Camp David to Madrid to the signing ceremony that will take place at the White House on Monday, administration after administration has facilitated this difficult but essential quest. From my first day in office, Secretary Christopher and I have made this a priority. We are resolved to continue this process to achieve a comprehensive Arab-Israeli resolution.

In 1990, the United States suspended the U.S.-PLO dialog begun 2 years earlier following an act of terrorism committed against Israel by a faction of the PLO. Yesterday Yasser Arafat wrote to Prime Minister Rabin, committing the PLO to accept Israel's right to exist in peace and security, to renounce terrorism, to take responsibility for the actions of its constituent groups, to discipline those elements who violate these new commitments, and to nullify key elements of the Palestinian covenant that denied Israel's right to exist. These PLO commitments justify a resumption of our dialog. As a result