

reason, I will, with some reluctance, sign this bill when Congress presents it to me. Let me be clear: I am firmly committed to working with Congress next year to strengthen the farm safety net, and I plan to propose legislation to do so.

I am especially disappointed that the bill does not provide as strong a safety net for family farmers as it should. It provides fixed payments without regard to whether farmers are receiving adequate income from the market, yet leaves farmers without protection in the event of natural disasters or other circumstances that sharply reduce their income.

I am pleased that the bill provides significant funds for conservation and environmental enhancement programs and that it will channel additional needed funds to rural development and agricultural research programs through the Fund for Rural America. The bill also reauthorizes nutrition programs for another 2 years and gives farmers the planting flexibility they need to plant for the market, not for Government programs.

I look forward to working with Congress next year in a process that involves all interested groups to make this a truly farmer-friendly farm bill.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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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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#### **March 18**

In the morning, the President traveled to New Orleans, LA. In the afternoon, he traveled to Leesville, where he met at Fort Polk with family members of U.S. troops who are serving in Bosnia. In the early evening, the President traveled to Alexandria, LA, where he attended a performance of the musical drama "Messiah" at the United Pentecostal Church. He then returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christopher Robert Hill as Ambas-

sador to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, George Ward, Jr., as Ambassador to Namibia, and Sharon P. Wilkinson as Ambassador to Burkina Faso.

#### **March 19**

The President announced his intention to nominate Dane Farnsworth Smith as Ambassador to Senegal.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gina McDonald to the National Council on Disability.

The President declared a major disaster in the State of Oregon and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and high winds on December 10–12, 1995.

#### **March 20**

In the morning, the President met with congressional leaders in the Oval Office to discuss the budget negotiations.

The President declared a major disaster in the State of Alabama and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes on March 5–6.

#### **March 21**

In the afternoon, the President attended a meeting with National Security Adviser Anthony Lake and Ian Paisley, leader of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party, in the National Security Adviser's office.

The President announced his intention to appoint Brady C. Williamson to be Chair and a member of the National Bankruptcy Review Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Alfred Gottschalk and Nathan Shapell to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate Genta Hawkins Holmes as Ambassador to Australia, Kenneth C. Brill as Ambassador to Cyprus, Day Olin Mount as Ambassador to Iceland, Glen Robert Rase as Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, and Thomas C. Hubbard as Ambassador to the Philippines and Palau.

#### **March 22**

The President announced his intention to nominate Lino Gutierrez as Ambassador to Nicaragua, Dennis K. Hays as Ambassador

to Suriname, Dennis C. Jett as Ambassador to Peru, James Francis Creagan as Ambassador to Honduras, and Donald J. Planty as Ambassador to Guatemala.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

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#### ***Submitted March 18***

Christopher Robert Hill, of Rhode Island, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Dane Farnsworth Smith, Jr., of New Mexico, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Senegal.

George F. Ward, Jr., of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Namibia.

Sharon P. Wilkinson, of New York, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Burkina Faso.

#### ***Submitted March 20***

Ginger Ehn Lew, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, vice Cassandra M. Pulley, resigned.

Gina McDonald, of Kansas, to be a member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 1998, vice Larry Brown, Jr., term expired.

#### ***Submitted March 21***

Kenneth C. Brill, of California, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cyprus.

Genta Hawkins Holmes, of California, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Australia.

Thomas C. Hubbard, of Tennessee, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of the Philippines and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Palau.

Day Olin Mount, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iceland.

Glen Robert Rase, of Florida, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Brunei Darussalam.

Calvin D. Buchanan, of Mississippi, to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi for a term of 4 years, vice Robert Q. Whitwell, resigned.