

of “high income” country as defined by the statistics of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and are subject to mandatory graduation.

The action regarding Malaysia and designation of least-developed beneficiary developing countries is effective January 1, 1997. The action against Pakistan is retroactive to July 1, 1996. The mandatory graduation of high income countries is effective January 1, 1998.

This notice is submitted in accordance with the requirements of title V of the Trade Act of 1974.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Proclamation 6943—Honoring the Filipino Veterans of World War II

October 17, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During the dark days of World War II, nearly 100,000 soldiers of the Philippine Commonwealth Army provided a ray of hope in the Pacific as they fought alongside United States and Allied forces for 4 long years to defend and reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japanese aggression. Thousands more Filipinos joined U.S. Armed Forces immediately after the war and served in occupational duty throughout the Pacific Theater. For their extraordinary sacrifices in defense of democracy and liberty, we owe them our undying gratitude.

Valiant Filipino soldiers fought, died, and suffered in some of the bloodiest battles of World War II, defending beleaguered Bataan and Corregidor, and thousands of Filipino prisoners of war endured the infamous Bataan Death March and years of captivity. Their many guerrilla actions slowed the Japanese takeover of the Western Pacific region and allowed U.S. forces the time to build and prepare for the allied counterattack on Japan. Filipino troops fought side-by-side with U.S.

forces to secure their island nation as the strategic base from which the final effort to defeat Japan was launched.

This month, as we mark the anniversary of General MacArthur’s return to the Philippines, we acknowledge the important role Filipino soldiers played in turning back aggression, defending liberty, and preserving democracy, and we extend to them our abiding thanks.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 20, 1996, as a day Honoring the Filipino Veterans of World War II. I urge all Americans to recall the courage, sacrifice, and loyalty of Filipino veterans of World War II and honor them for their contributions to our freedom.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 21, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 18, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 22.

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.

October 12

In the morning, the President traveled to Denver and Morrison, CO. In the afternoon, he traveled to Englewood, CO.

October 13

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Albuquerque, NM.

October 15

The President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by storm surge, heavy rains, and wind damage associated with Tropical Storm Josephine on October 7 and continuing.

October 16

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to San Diego, CA.

The President announced his intention to appoint Donald J. Barry as U.S. Federal Representative to the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission.

The President announced the following recipients of the 1996 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards: Dana Commercial Credit Corporation of Toledo, OH; ADAC Laboratories of Milpitas, CA; Custom Research, Inc., of Minneapolis, MN; and Trident Precision Manufacturing, Inc., of Webster, NY.

October 17

In the morning, the President traveled to Tustin, CA. In the afternoon, he traveled to Los Angeles, CA. In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving early the next morning.

October 18

In the afternoon, the President met with Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri of Lebanon.

The President announced the appointment of Donna H. Cunnigham to be the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Ms. Cunnigham will serve as a recess appointee.

The President announced the appointment of Karen Shepherd to be U.S. Executive Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Ms. Shepherd will serve as a recess appointee.

The President announced his intention to appoint Jean A. Riezman to the Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released October 14

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry, Clinton/Gore '96 Press Secretary Joe Lockhart, and White House Director of Political Affairs Doug Sosnik

Released October 15

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry, Clinton/Gore '96 Press Secretary Joe Lockhart, and White House Director of Political Affairs Doug Sosnik

Released October 17

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry, Clinton/Gore '96 Press Secretary Joe Lockhart, and White House Director of Political Affairs Doug Sosnik

Released October 18

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry announcing the upcoming Friends of Leb-