

The leadership package is a good start. It cuts the estate tax for all taxpayers, including small businesses and farmers. Congress must find a way to improve the estate tax crisis in my State of Iowa, and other States. I look forward to continuing my work with the leader to accomplish an estate tax reduction.

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX ON FARMER
DEFERRED CONTRACTS

Finally, I want to make quick reference to tax repeal legislation that will be introducing tomorrow for myself and over 50 other original sponsors. Senators DORGAN, GORTON, BAUCUS, and I have campaigned to eliminate an IRS imposed tax on farmers and ranchers who sell crops or livestock on deferred contracts. Congress did not intend this tax. Only the IRS intends this tax. The broad bipartisan support that we have gathered tells me that Congress is going to repeal it. We will have more on this initiative tomorrow.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT CONCERNING BIOLOGICAL
AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS—MES-
SAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—
PM 5

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report, which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1416 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (Public Law 104-201), I transmit herewith a report describing the respective policy functions and operational roles of Federal agencies in countering the threat posed by the use of potential use of biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction (WMD) within the United States.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 21, 1997.*

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION
OF THE EMERGENCY REGARDING
TERRORISTS—MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT—PM 6

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists that disrupt the Middle East peace process, is to continue in effect beyond January 23, 1997. The first notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* last year on January 22, 1996.

The crisis with respect to the grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists that threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that led to the declaration of a national emergency, on January 23, 1995, has not been resolved. Terrorist groups continue to engage in activities with the purpose or effect of threatening the Middle East peace process, and which are hostile to U.S. interests in the region. Such actions threaten vital interests of the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities necessary to deny any financial support from the United States for foreign terrorists that threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 21, 1997.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker appoints the following Member to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. SAXTON of New Jersey.

At 3:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 9. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President on the State of the Union.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-578. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska, received on January 8, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-579. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Florida, received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-580. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Florida, received on January 6, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-581. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to the Fishery Management Plan, (RIN0648-AI97) received on January 8, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-582. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a letter of certification relative to the Driftnet Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-583. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to Puerto Rican shrub, (RIN1018-AD48) received on January 7, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-584. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a certification relative to commercial shrimping operations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-585. A communication from the Secretary of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to fireworks, received January 2, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-586. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to Class A and Tier 1 Telephone Companies, received on January 7, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-587. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Airport Improvement Program for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-588. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the biennial report on the effectiveness of occupant protection systems and their use; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-589. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Aircraft Cabin Air Quality Research Program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-590. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to tank vessels, (RIN2115-AF27) received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.