402(b) and 409(b) of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the ''Act''). I have determined that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine are in full compliance with subsections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Act. As required by title IV, I will provide the Congress with periodic reports regarding the compliance of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine with these emigration standards.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 3, 1997.*

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KINGSTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

REASONABLENESS IN SPENDING TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, you know we are at the starting gate of a new era, I think, in the U.S. Congress of trying to look at what is reasonable and what is practical on the way we pay/spend taxpayers' dollars. We have just finished a debate and both sides have agreed that somehow Government is taking too much of the hard-earned money out of working families' pockets, so we are in a new attitude saying that too big a Government and too much taxes is bad for the people and it is bad for the economy.

I think as we look over some of the weaknesses of this budget agreement, I suspect a couple of the areas that I would put at the top of the list are the way we have dealt and tried to figure out solutions for the reduction in spending of entitlement programs.

Entitlement programs next year will use up 53 percent of the total Federal budget, and you know for a Congress that was developed and given the responsibility of not only deciding how much money was going to be spent and how it would be spent to evolve in today's situation where Congress really only has control of about 17 percent of the budget; if you consider that the 17 percent that goes into defense spending is almost on automatic pilot, because there is seldom a disagreement of more than a plus or minus 10 percent deviation between the hawks and the doves and the Republicans and the Democrats, we are left with discretionary spending that represents just under 17 percent of the Federal budget.

Entitlement programs I think can be defined as anybody that is eligible for that money will automatically be paid those sums. Of course, the large spending items are Social Security taking 23 percent of the Federal budget now, Medicare, Medicaid, the welfare programs, the food stamp programs, the agricultural programs; all on automatic pilot, if you will, that Congress has lost control of and a majority in Congress can no longer adjust those spendings without the consent of the President.

You know, I think a lot of people misunderstood what happened 2 years ago when Republicans said that we are going to take this discretionary spending and use it as leverage to try to change and slow down some of the increases in discretionary spending.

Now, the Government closed down first 2 days, and then in December 1995, 3 days, and then it came to March 1996, last year, and Republicans said, look, we are going to draw a line in the sand and we are not going to pass this discretionary spending bill that in effect runs the Federal Government unless the President agrees to submit a balanced budget.

The President though, does whatever he does to make those decisions, decided, yes, I am going to do that. Now the whole world of Congress has changed, and everybody is saying yes, we want to balance the budget.

I mean that is the good news, that is the great news, and now we are saying let us let people keep some of that hard-earned money in their pockets and start reducing taxes. That means reducing the size of this overwhelming huge Government that is now out of control.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to focus on the need to sustain, expand, and fully support our Nation's youth through the federally funded Summer Youth Employment Program.

I am strongly committed to the Summer Youth Employment Program and would like to insure that it serves all of the needs for summer employment for our Nation's disadvantaged youth.

Prior to my election to the U.S. House of Representatives, I worked to create an expanded Summer Youth Employment Program that would serve the entire city of Houston. That resulting effort continues to be successfully managed by Houston Works, a not-for-profit organization based in Houston, TX.

I know from personal experience that a summer job for those young people enrolled into the Job Training Partnership Act's Summer Youth Employment Program sponsored projects around this country is more than just an opportunity to have money for the next school year, it is an opportunity to learn, live, and experience the work environment and culture.

In 1997, Houston Works Summer Youth Program plans to serve 6,500 young people between the ages of 14 and 21, with a projected budget of $8.9 million. This funding would only allow 3 percent of those who would qualify to be included in the program. The potential number of applications for this important jobs program is 43,000 young people which reflects the total number of disadvantaged youth in the area served by Houston Works. Nationwide, there are 4 million youths who would qualify for this summer jobs program if funds were available.

Last year Houston Works provided 5,177 jobs to youth ages 14 through 21 years, with a budget of $6.5 million.

This program has made a significant difference in the lives and fortunes of Houston's young people who were fortunate enough to have their applications accepted.

One young lady in particular that comes to mind when I think of the real impact of our summer jobs program has on the lives of our Nation's young people is Ms. LaQuista L. Stewart.

Ms. Stewart is a remarkable young woman who worked 4 years with the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program during the summers of 1991 through 1994. Her placement included 2 years as a clerical assistant at Smiley High School; 1 year at Texas Children's Hopsital as medical assistant to the supervisor of the pulmonary laboratory technician in the Diagnostic Center, and 1 year as clerical assistant to Houston City Councilmember Felix Fraga.

Ms. Stewart's uniqueness is not that she did very well in her job placements, but that she, like majority of youth served by this critical program, had to overcome obstacles to meet the challenges and succeed in the program.

At the age of 2, she and her family were involved in a car wreck that left her stepfather permanently disabled and LaQuista lost her spleen and left kidney. Her family has gone through great difficulty, both financial and personally, as they learned to cope with their physical and economic limitations after the accident.

Ms. Stewart used the income provided by her youth employment to assist her family financially and for college expenses.

Despite her setbacks, Ms. Stewart was able to participate in the National Honor Society, became her Class Parliamentarian, worked with Future Business Leaders of America, and was ranked 40th in a class of 365 students.

Ms. Stewart credits Houston Works Program which is funded by the Summer Youth Employment Program for her successful job placement in the office of Houston City Councilmember Michael J. Yarbrough. Councilmember Yarbrough hired Ms. Stewart in a permanent job on July 29, 1994. She currently works 40 hours per week and is enrolled in her third year at the University of Houston.

Some might say, in hindsight, that Ms. LaQuista Stewart would have been a success without the Summer Youth Employment Training Program, and if this were a perfect world I would agree with them. Unfortunately, this world is not perfect and those deserving of a chance to learn valuable job skills are not always afforded that opportunity.

I would like to stress the need to look at summer youth employment as an extension of the learning experience for those young people who would otherwise not have that opportunity. It is the best example that we can convey to disadvantaged youth the valuable lessons of work and responsibility.

I would like to see the funding for summer youth employment create a separate funding stream for this significant program. Most of our disadvantaged young people live in urban areas that can best be served by direct funding of these programs. The block grant approach is detrimental to summer youth employment because it may not leave States with the needed flexibility to assign funds based on the particular socioeconomic demographics of the various States.

This summer jobs program provides income that will generate spending, often in impoverished neighborhoods, the summer program helps generate economic growth. For each 1,000 kids employed, the program brings between $1 and $1.4 million to those community.

I would hope that the Congress can meet the administration's request of $871 million for the next fiscal year's funding of our Nation's Summer Youth Employment Program. I would also ask that you keep in mind the full benefits of the Summer Youth Employment Program, both tangible economic benefits and intangible job learning experience benefits.

PROMISES MEAN NOTHING TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO PLACE TO LIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, it is now day 12, 12 days since Congress recessed without taking action on the disaster supplemental appropriations bill. It is the sixth week since an absolutely devastating flood, a flood of 1,000-year proportion, hit Grand Forks and inundated North Dakota's second largest city, a city of 50,000 people.

One of the things that as we saw the footage broadcast throughout this country and, in fact, across the world, as you looked at literally a city steeped in the Red River water, it was a horrible visage. But one of the things that I think we perhaps could not fully appreciate as we watched that horrible site and saw the fires ravaging the downtown in the middle of this floodwater is the extent of damage occurring in each and every structure that had that floodwater in it.

During the 12 days since Congress recessed I spent a good deal of that time in Grand Forks. The stories that I heard directly from the people impacted from this flood were among the most moving I have heard from anyone.

What I believe Congress failed to realize as it recessed and went home without taking action was that it left literally thousands of people in the area I represent utterly in limbo.

Some have suggested that the disaster did not need prompt attention, FEMA is operating, SBA is operating, the programs are in the pipeline chugging along happily, providing all the disaster relief anyone could ever require. That is simply wrong; they are simply wrong. In fact, the disaster bill hung up in conference committee contains in one of its most essential parts $500 million of community development block grants. This funding is literally the linchpin of the Grand Forks' recovery effort because it will provide the funding for the expanded floodway, it will provide the buyouts that will purchase the homes in the floodway, giving their owners the capital they need to get on with planning where they are going to live next; do they build, do they buy? Whatever. Without that community development block grant funding, without the assurance, and the commitment of those resources to our area, people are utterly on hold.

Imagine having your home in the floodway, but with the city unable to determine exactly what funding will be available for home buyout purchase, the city cannot tell you whether or not to repair your home. Now your home has got about $20,000 or $30,000 worth of damage, and this is the case of hundreds of homes. You do not know whether to put in $20,000 or $30,000; you already lost most of your life's investment in the equity of your home. You do not know whether to put in that money without knowing whether you might be bought out and forced to move within a year again anyway. And so you wait, as hundreds of families are waiting in Grand Forks each and every day of the 12 days that Congress went out on recess without taking action. Your children may be living with grandparents or relatives, other relatives, maybe friends. Your family may be scattered. You may be commuting 90 miles one way to work because you do not have a place to live, and Congress recesses.

And during the recess, Mr. Speaker, Members traveled all over the world enjoying their time away from legislative business. Well, the people in Grand Forks would have liked to have taken time away from their business, their business of trying to pull themselves out of the floodwater and the mud of the Red River and get on with their productive lives. But they could not do it, and the reason they could not do it is because this bill was hung up in conference committee.

There was a tremendous constructive, bipartisan effort in building a good disaster bill. I personally have stood here on the floor of the House and expressed my appreciation to the Speaker, to the majority leader and to the other Members, both in the majority and the minority, who have worked together to build such a meaningful relief package to our area. But it does not do any good if it is not passed. Simple as that.

Mr. Speaker, deed is in the enacting and getting the resources available. Promises at this point mean nothing to people who have got no place to live.

□ 1900

The conference committee reconvenes tomorrow. It is my urgent hope and request of the conferees that, as they come back into session, remember those in the flood-ravished areas I represent, put politics aside, and get about the business of getting people the help they so desperately need.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SENGSTACKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DAVIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American who recently passed away, one whose life has flowed and influence has flowed from his office on the near south side of Chicago to points across America and throughout the world, Mr. John H. Sengstacke. He spent 50 years as publisher of the Chicago Daily Defender newspaper, which was founded by Robert Abbott in 1905 and sold as many as 200,000 copies a week during World War II, when it championed desegregation of the Armed Forces and paved the way for Jackie Robinson to become the first black to play major league baseball.

John Sengstacke was born in Savannah, GA, educated at Hampton Institute in Virginia, and spent the rest of his life working for and building the Chicago Defender newspaper, a paper which under the leadership of Mr. Abbott had acquired a readership far beyond Chicago by being an early champion of the great migration beginning in World War I.

Mr. Abbott preached in his editorials that the destiny of blacks was in the north, where factories were desperate for workers. Pullman car porters acted as unofficial circulation agents by picking up copies in Chicago and dropping them off at barber shops and churches along their southern runs.

In the 1940's Mr. Sengstacke founded the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, now known as the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which has more than 200 members. He also acquired the new Pittsburgh Courier, the Detroit-based Michigan Chronicle, and the Tri-State Defender published in Memphis, TN. Out of the Defender has emerged a Chicago institution, the Bud Billiken parade. As an activity of the Defender charities, the Bud Billiken parade has grown to be one of the largest community celebrations in the Nation. Mayors, Governors, Senators and even Presidents have marched or ridden in this parade, which traditionally draws more than a