

After considering the recommendations of the Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power and the advice of the Secretary of Defense, I have decided that the \$331 million authorized and appropriated for B-2 bombers in Fiscal year 1998 will be applied as follows: \$174 million will be applied toward completing the planned Fiscal Year 1998 baseline modification and repair program and \$157 million will be applied toward further upgrades to improve the deployability, survivability, and maintainability of the current B-2 fleet. Using the funds in this manner will ensure successful completion of the baseline modification and repair program and further enhance the operational combat readiness of the B-2 fleet.

The Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power also provided several far-reaching recommendations for fully exploiting the potential of the current B-1, B-2, and B-52 bomber force, and for upgrading and sustaining the bomber force for the longer term. These longer term recommendations warrant careful review as the Department of Defense prepares its Fiscal Year 2000-2006 Future Years Defense Program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 1998.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, has announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 34. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from making contributions or expenditures in connection with an election for Federal office.

H.R. 2186. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming.

H.R. 2786. An act to authorize additional appropriations for the Department of Defense for ballistic missile defenses and other measures to counter the emerging threat posed to the United States and its allies in the Middle East and Persian Gulf region by the development and deployment of ballistic missiles by Iran.

H.R. 3113. An act to reauthorize the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994.

H.R. 3301. An act to amend chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of the Treasury greater discretion with regard to the placement of the required inscriptions on quarter dollars issued under the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program.

H.R. 3582. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to expedite the reporting of information to the Federal Election Commission, to expand the type of information required to be reported to the Commission, to provide the effective enforcement of campaign laws by the Commission, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 750. An act to consolidate certain mineral interests in the National Grasslands in Billings County, North Dakota, through the

exchange of Federal and private mineral interests to enhance land management capabilities and environmental and wildlife protection, and for other purposes.

At 4:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, has announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3579. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 34. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from making contributions or expenditures in connection with an election for Federal office; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.R. 2186. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2786. An act to authorize additional appropriations for the Department of Defense for ballistic missile defenses and other measures to counter the emerging threat posed to the United States and its allies in the Middle East and Persian Gulf region by the development and deployment of ballistic missiles by Iran; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 3113. An act to reauthorize the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3582. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to expedite the reporting of information to the Federal Election Commission, to expand the type of information required to be reported to the Commission, to provide the effective enforcement of campaign laws by the Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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-4458. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4459. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Prison Industries, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4460. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Drug Testing, Intervention and Trafficking Reduction Within Prisons Act of 1998"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4461. A communication from the Chairman of Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4462. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Federal Meat and Poultry Employees Pay Act of 1998"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4463. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4464. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4465. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Ruling 98:20 received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4466. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedure 98:27 received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4467. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules received on March 26, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4468. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emission Standards for Locomotives and Locomotive Engines"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4469. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of twelve notices of proposed issuances of export licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4470. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Memorandum of Justification relative to the Government of Georgia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4471. A communication from the Secretary of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of voting practices at the United Nations for the calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4472. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4473. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the U.S. Government voluntary contributions to international organizations for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4474. A communication from the Comptroller of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the AV-8B aircraft programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4475. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement (Acquisition and Technology), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law,