

So there were many areas when—I mean, I appreciate the fact that people who work for me want me to—want to give us credit for things; that’s their job. But you have to give these people an enormous amount of credit, these other leaders, because they gave huge amounts of time to this process before we ever showed up here. And they would say things like, “Okay, this is what you want to do in this area, and we will go along with that, but this is our concern.” So we would work along to get their concerns worked out.

So I think that if the United States deserves any credit here, it is in the process by which we found common ground, by moving into the future in ways that took account of the legitimate concerns of all these other countries.

And if I could just give you one example in closing—I haven’t seen it much noted in the last couple of days, but this summit represented a remarkable partnership between the United States and Brazil, two countries that have in the past been at odds over trade and other issues and at least have not had the kind of closeness of relationship that the two largest countries in this hemisphere ought to have had. And I am especially grateful to President Franco and to the Brazilians generally for the work they did to help us keep this together.

So I would give a lot of credit to the other guys. I think they deserve it, and I hope they get it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President’s 83d news conference began at 1:15 p.m. at the James L. Knight Center. In his remarks, he referred to President Carlos Menem of Argentina; Summit of the Americas Coordinator Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty; Summit of the Americas Deputy Coordinator Roger Altman; and President Itamar Franco of Brazil.

### **Statement Congratulating Nobel Peace Prize Winners**

*December 11, 1994*

On behalf of the American people I wish to extend congratulations to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Chairman Yasser Arafat, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on being se-

lected as the Nobel Peace Prize laureates for 1994.

It was with great pride that we welcomed these leaders to the White House on September 13 last year to sign the historic Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles. It is fitting that this achievement be recognized by award of the Nobel Peace Prize and that the presentation take place in Norway, the country which contributed so much to making it possible.

There is still much work to be done by all who support and share with this year’s Nobel laureates the goal of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East. The ceremony in the Oslo City Hall not only marks a great achievement, it encourages all of us to redouble our efforts to realize the promise of peace for all the people of the Middle East.

### **Executive Order 12942—Addition to Level V of the Executive Schedule—Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans**

*December 12, 1994*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 5317 of title 5, United States Code, and in order to place an additional position in Level V of the Executive Schedule, it is hereby ordered that section 1–102 of Executive Order No. 12154, as amended, is further amended by adding the following new subsection to section 1–102:

“(f) Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans”.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
December 12, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:49 p.m., December 13, 1994]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on December 15.

**Executive Order 12943—Further  
Amendment to Executive Order No.  
11755**

*December 13, 1994*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in accordance with sections 3621 and 3622 of title 18, United States Code, and section 4301 of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994, Public Law 103-355, and in order to improve the acquisition of small cost items by the Federal Government, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 11755, as amended, is further amended as follows: (a) by deleting the phrase “section 4082 of title 18 of the United States Code, the Attorney General” in the second paragraph of the preamble and inserting in lieu thereof the following phrase: “sections 3621 and 3622 of title 18, United States Code, the Bureau of Prisons” and

(b) by adding a new subsection (c) to section 1 of the order. The new subsection (c) is to read as follows: “(c) The provisions of this order do not apply to purchases made under the micropurchase authority contained in section 32 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended.”

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
December 13, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,  
2:50 p.m., December 13, 1994]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on December 15.

**Message on the Observance of  
Christmas**

*December 15, 1994*

Warm greetings to Americans everywhere during this joyous Christmas season.

The timeless story of a baby born in a manger amid humble surroundings is the fulfillment of a promise, an affirmation of faith. Jesus' birth demonstrates the infinite love of God. We celebrate the gift of His life, and Christmas softens our hearts and rekindles in us a sincere desire to reach out to others in peace and friendship.

As we rejoice in the miracle of Christmas, we reflect on the Holy Family and draw strength from their example of faith. We are reminded that the bonds between parent and child, between husband and wife, and between neighbor and stranger are opportunities to answer Jesus' call to love one another, and we are reminded that one day we will be asked whether we lived out His love in ways that treated all of our brothers and sisters—even the least of them—as we would have treated Him.

In holy Bethlehem and throughout the Middle East, ancient enemies are putting aside their differences and coming together in goodwill. Recognizing that there is still much work to be done, let us build on this success and nurture love and caring in our world, in our neighborhoods, and in our homes. With this commitment, we can all share in the fulfillment of the Christmas promise.

Hillary joins me in wishing you joy and peace this Christmas.

**Bill Clinton**

**Statement on the California Bay  
Delta Agreement**

*December 15, 1994*

When I campaigned for President, I said many times that environmental protection and economic growth can go hand in hand.

Today's historic Bay Delta agreement demonstrates that this goal can be achieved. It resolves one of the most contentious and important public policy issues affecting the State of California. It puts an end to a bitter conflict that has persisted for decades.

This is a solution that serves all the people of California. It means farmers will have a reliable supply of water to grow their crops; that commercial and sport fishermen will have reliable supplies of fish; that cities in California will have consistent, predictable supplies of water at reasonable rates; and that those who love the outdoors will find places throughout northern California with fish, birds, and clean, fresh water.

Under the leadership of Secretary Babbitt and Administrator Browner, the Federal Government aggressively faced up to its re-