REQUESTS FOR PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED CONTINGENT EMERGENCY FUNDS

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

REQUESTS TO MAKE AVAILABLE PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED CONTINGENT EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND A REQUEST TO TRANSFER PREVIOUSLY AP-PROPRIATED FUNDS FROM THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND TO THE GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(b)(2)(A) OF THE BALANCED BUDGET AND EMER-GENCY DEFICIT CONTROL ACT OF 1985 AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 107-38



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WASHINGTON: 2002

THE WHITE HOUSE, Washington, March 20, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with the requirement included in Public Law 107–63, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 2002, I hereby request \$346.0 million in emergency appropriations previously provided under title II for the Department of Agriculture for rehabilitation and wildfire suppression activities of the Forest Service.

Î hereby designate these funds as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. The entire amount is being designated as an emergency requirement to make \$200.0 million available immediately to repay funds previously borrowed for emergency

wildland fire suppression activities.

Furthermore, in accordance with provisions of Public Law 107–38, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, FY 2001, I hereby authorize a transfer from the Emergency Response Fund totaling \$27.2 million to the General Services Administration.

I have previously authorized the transfer of over \$19.9 billion in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. With this action today, all the funds that were made available to me from the Emergency Response Fund have been transferred for urgent needs.

The details of these actions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.

Enclosure.

[Estimate No. 4, 107th Cong., 2d Sess.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,

Washington, DC, March 18, 2002.

The President, *The White House*.

Submitted for your consideration is a request for previously appropriated contingent emergency funds for the Department of Agriculture and a request to transfer previously appropriated funds from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) to the General Services Administration (GSA).

Title II of P.L. 107–63, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 2002, provided \$346.0 million in contingent emergency funding for the Department of Agriculture to repay prior year advances that were used for emergency fire suppression, address rehabilitation and restoration activities and address future emergency fire suppression activities of the Forest Service. The entire \$346.0 million is being designated as an emergency requirement to make \$200.0 million available immediately to repay funds previously borrowed for emergency wildland fire suppression activities.

I recommend that you designate this request for \$346.0 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be

required.

In addition, P.L. 107–38, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, FY 2001, made \$20.0 billion available to you without further action by Congress. To date, you have previously authorized the transfer of \$19.97 billion from ERF. This request represents the final transfer from ERF to meet national security, homeland security, and domestic recovery requirements arising from the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Your approval of this request would transfer \$27.2 million from ERF to GSA. This funding will be used for security upgrades at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building to allow the reoccupation of offices in the 17th Street wing of the building, which were evacuated in the days following September 11th. Pursuant to P.L. 107–38, these funds will be made available immediately to GSA without further congressional review.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I recommend that you

sign the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Director.

Enclosure.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS

Title II of P.L. 107–63, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, provided \$346.0 million in contingent emergency funding for the Department of Agriculture to repay prior year advances that were used for emergency fire suppression, address rehabilitation and restoration activities and address future emergency fire suppression activities of the Forest Service. The entire amount is being designated as an emergency requirement to make \$200.0 million available immediately to repay funds previously borrowed for emergency wildland fire suppression activities. The remaining funds will be made available for obligation to address emergency requirements as needed.

This funding will be used for security upgrades at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building that are necessary in order to allow the eventual reoccupation of offices in the 17th Street wing of the building.

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