

The President. That's great. Well, it's good to talk to you again. I hope you will tell all the people in Joint Task Force Shining Hope that I'm very grateful for a job well done.

Maj. Gen. Hinton. Mr. Sykes is here, sir, and of course, he already has 400 refugees on board.

Chris Sykes. How are you, Mr. President?

The President. I'm fine.

Mr. Sykes. Okay. It's been a great exercise—

The President. Well, I really appreciate the way you've worked with our military to organize and design the camp. And I want to thank CARE and all the NGO's that are working there.

Exactly how many are there now?

Mr. Sykes. We've got exactly 409 now, and we'll be receiving another 500, which we're in the process of receiving as you speak.

The President. Well, that's good news. I think it's good for them—go ahead.

Mr. Sykes. Yes—we're moving right ahead on schedule, and we should be able to speed up our rate of reception. The initial influx has come in from Kukes, and we're prepared for any influx from Macedonia, as well.

The President. Well, that's great. I think we may have a little influx from Macedonia. The situation there is not the best, and we've got a lot of pressure. So I hope we can really do a good job of getting as many people as possible there.

Mr. Sykes. Well, sir, we'll keep this camp going on schedule, and we're looking for sites for two more camps right now.

The President. That's great. I know they need all the help they can get. They've taken a lot of folks, and I know a lot of them are in homes, but I think from here on out we're going to have to have more camps and good ones.

Mr. Sykes. Yes, sir. We've got a good contractor here helping to build these camps and we'll keep trying to find the right sites.

The President. Well, I appreciate it. I know it's tough work, but you're doing something really important. And it will be temporary, but it may be a while. And so we've

got to do the best we can. And I'm very grateful to both of you.

Mr. Sykes. Thank you, sir.

The President. Thank you, Chris, and thank you, General. It's good to hear your voice. Take care.

Maj. Gen. Hinton. Thank you, thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Bye-bye.

NOTE: The teleconference began at 9:40 a.m. The President spoke from the Oval Office at the White House to Maj. Gen. William S. Hinton, Jr., USAF, Commander, Joint Task Force Shining Hope, and Chris Sykes, camp manager, CARE, at the Camp Hope refugee site, located 60 miles from the city of Fier, Albania.

Statement on Senate Action on Gun Control Legislation

May 14, 1999

I am deeply disappointed that, by the narrowest of margins, the Senate has refused to close the gun show loophole while creating other dangerous loopholes to our gun laws. If the Senate's decision is left to stand, it will be easier for criminals to get guns and harder for law enforcement to do its job. Criminals will be able to get guns at gun shows and pawn shops, no questions asked, and Federal law enforcement won't be able to ensure gun sellers' compliance with laws or to trace firearms later used in crimes. If the Senate wants to do right by the American people, it will once again bring up the Lautenberg amendment, when all Members are present, and close the gun show loophole once and for all.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 8

In the morning, the President traveled from Austin, TX, to Oklahoma City, OK, where he toured the tornado damaged areas by helicopter.

In the afternoon, the President took a walking tour of the tornado damage in Del Aire, a neighborhood in Del City, OK. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

May 10

In the afternoon, the President met with President Fernando Cardoso of Brazil in the Oval Office to discuss global, regional, and other issues.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stuart E. Weisberg to be a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

May 11

In the morning, the President met privately with 15 corporate leaders in the Cabinet Room to discuss the new markets initiative.

Later, the President traveled to Atlanta, GA, where he toured the Sweet Auburn Market.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Don Christiansen and Robert Valentine to serve as members of the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission.

May 12

In the evening, the President met with tribal leaders in the Chief of Staff's office.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey Rush, Jr., to be Inspector General at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to nominate Prudence Bushnell to be Ambassador to Guatemala.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jack E. Hightower to be a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

The President announced his intention to appoint Ray Marshall as a member of the National Skill Standards Board.

The President declared a major disaster in Tennessee and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding on May 5 and continuing.

May 13

In the evening, the President attended a Democratic National Committee (DNC) Jefferson Trust dessert reception at a private residence.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Eulee, FL, on May 25-30.

The President announced his intention to designate Edward B. Montgomery to serve as Acting Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor.

The President announced his intention to nominate Arthur L. Money to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence.

The President announced his intention to appoint Jane Slate Siena to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

The President announced his intention to appoint Parker Westbrook and Arva Parks McCabe as members of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

May 14

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Jiang Zemin of China concerning the Chinese Embassy bombing in Belgrade.

Later, the President traveled to Seattle, WA, where he attended a DNC luncheon at the Rainier Club.

In the late afternoon, the President traveled to Palo Alto, CA, where he attended a DNC dinner at a private residence.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kevin Gover as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center.

The President announced his intention to appoint Karen Lau Sullivan as U.S. Representative to the Pacific Community.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted May 10

M. Michael Einik, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Mark Wylea Erwin, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Seychelles.

Christopher E. Goldthwait, of Florida, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Chad.

Edward E. Kaufman, of Delaware, to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2000 (reappointment).

Larry C. Napper, of Texas, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Coordinator of the Support for

Administration of William J. Clinton, 1999

East European Democracy (SEED) Program, vice Ralph R. Johnson.

Donald Lee Pressley, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Agency for International Development, vice Thomas A. Dine, resigned.

Submitted May 12

Joseph Limprecht, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Albania.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released May 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy Planning Bruce Reed on the White House Strategy Meeting on Children, Violence, and Responsibility

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Cardoso of Brazil

Released May 11

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Released May 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart