

What do you say to her and some of the other members of the Congressional Black Caucus, especially after you met with them saying that you're into an inclusive era?

The President. We had a very good meeting here and discussed a wide range of issues. I'm glad their Members came up, sat right here at this table, and expressed their opinion. My administration certainly never attempts to leave anybody out. And to the extent that Members—any Member feels left out, I'm sorry that that's the case. But we took the Members on that trip, and there will be other trips.

U.S.S. Greenville

Q. Mr. President, were you surprised to learn that there were civilians at the helm of the submarine that sank the Japanese fishing boat?

The President. Well, I think what is going to be necessary is for Secretary Rumsfeld and the Defense Department to review all policy regarding civilian activity during military exercises. I look forward to the Defense Department review of the policies, their current policies, particularly in light of the recent tragedy that took place in Hawaii.

I want to reiterate what I said to the Prime Minister of Japan. I'm deeply sorry about the accident that took place. Our Nation is sorry that the accident happened, and we will do everything we can to help recover the bodies.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:50 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori of Japan. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Memorandum on Expediting Federal Decisions Relating to the Siting and Operation of Power Plants in California

February 15, 2001

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency

Subject: Expediting Federal Decisions Relating to the Siting and Operation of Power Plants in California

Governor Davis of California has directed State and local agencies to expedite the review and licensing of new power generation facilities, and he has requested that Federal agencies do the same.

The Federal Government should make every effort to work with California and to help its citizens. I hereby direct all relevant Federal agencies to expedite Federal permit reviews and decision procedures with respect to the siting and operation of power plants in California. All actions taken must be consistent with statute and ensure continued protection of public health and the environment while preserving appropriate opportunities for public participation.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 16. An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

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.

February 11

In the afternoon, the President returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

February 12

In the morning, the President traveled to Fort Stewart, GA, and in the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard Lee Armitage to be Deputy Secretary of State.

The President announced his intention to nominate Dov Zakheim to be Under Secretary of Defense and Comptroller.

The President announced his intention to nominate Thelma J. Askey to be Commissioner of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kenneth I. Juster to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Faryar Shirzad to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Theodore William Kassinger to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

The President announced his intention to nominate Scott Whitaker to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation.

The President announced his intention to designate Laura S. Unger as Acting Chairwoman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

February 13

In the morning, the President traveled to Norfolk, VA, and in the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gov. Paul Cellucci of Massachusetts to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Canada.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael P. Jackson to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

The President announced his intention to nominate John M. Duncan to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Legislative Affairs.

February 14

In the morning, the President traveled to Charleston, WV, where he visited the West Virginia National Guard's emergency operations center to watch a simulated emergency flood response exercise. In the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

In an afternoon ceremony in the Oval Office, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors Ivan Grdesic of Croatia, Emmanuel Touaboy of the Central African Republic, Juan Jose Bremer Martino of the United Mexican States, Milan St. Protic of Yugoslavia, Kanat Saudabayev of Kazakhstan, Meret Orazov of Turkmenistan, and Carlos Alzamora Traverso of Peru.

The President announced his intention to nominate Larry D. Thompson to be Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Theodore B. Olson to be Solicitor General of the United States.

The White House announced that the President will have a working visit with President Andres Pastrana of Colombia at the White House on February 27.

February 15

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles A. James to be Assistant Attorney General overseeing the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Daniel J. Bryant to be Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs.

The White House announced that the President will have a working visit with President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea at the White House on March 7.