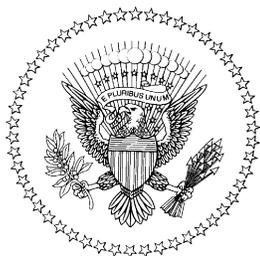


Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



Monday, March 12, 2001  
Volume 37—Number 10  
Pages 397–429

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**Editor's Note:** The President was in Lafayette, LA, on March 9, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under

regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 FR 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

Distribution is made only by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* will be furnished by mail to domestic subscribers for \$80.00 per year (\$137.00 for mailing first class) and to foreign subscribers for \$93.75 per year, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The charge for a single copy is \$3.00 (\$3.75 for foreign mailing).

There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*.

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Week Ending Friday, March 9, 2001

**The President's Radio Address**

*March 3, 2001*

Good morning. As I begin, I want to say a few words about the people of Washington State. Earlier this week, that State was rocked by a powerful earthquake, which affected countless lives and caused billion dollars of damage. The Director of the Federal Emergency Management Association, Joe Allbaugh, went immediately to Seattle, and my administration is providing help. Our prayers are with the people of Washington State.

A few days ago, I had the honor of addressing a joint session of Congress. I hope you had a chance to tune in and hear my plans for the Federal budget and my priorities for the country. After making my case to Congress, I headed out early the next morning on a swing through five States to bring my case directly to you, the American people.

I approach our budget as American families do. First, we set priorities and funded them. My top priority is education reform. And I have asked that the Department of Education receive the largest percentage increase of any Federal agency. We increase funding for our reading programs and character education and recruiting good teachers. This time around, however, we won't be just spending more money; we will be setting higher standards and expecting real results for all our children.

We're going to keep the promise of Social Security and keep the Government from raiding the Social Security surplus. And to safeguard the system against long-term threats, I will form a Presidential commission to reform Social Security and place it on firm financial ground. We will spend more on Medicare, as well, nearly doubling its budget in 10 years. But just as important, we will modernize Medicare to provide a prescription drug benefit for senior citizens. We will also support and strengthen America's mili-

tary, starting with a pay increase and better housing for our troops.

After meeting these national priorities, my budget pays down a record amount of national debt. We will pay off \$2 trillion of debt over the next decade. That will be the largest debt reduction of any country, ever. Future generations shouldn't be forced to pay back money that we have borrowed. We owe this kind of responsibility to our children and grandchildren.

And in addition to funding our priorities and reducing debt by a record amount, we set up a contingency fund of nearly \$1 trillion, and we still have money left over. The surplus money that remains will be used for a broad, fair tax relief. A surplus, after all, is an overcharge of American taxpayers. And on your behalf, I am asking for a refund.

My tax plan reduces income tax rates across the board, giving the largest percentage reductions to working families who need the most help. My plan reduces the marriage penalty and gets rid of the death tax. It will boost the economy and help create new businesses, new jobs, and new growth at a time when we need all three.

When the tax cut takes effect, the typical family of four will save \$1,600 every year. Some say that's not much. But they ought to talk to people like Steven and Josefina Aramos, young parents trying to build a better life for their family. Right now they pay about \$8,000 a year in Federal income taxes. My plan will save this hardworking family more than \$2,000. Steven says, and I quote, "Two thousand dollars is a lot to my family. If we had this money, it would help us reach our goal of paying off our personal debt in 2 years time."

Well, I want the Aramos family and millions of others like them to meet their goals, and to live out their best hopes for themselves and their children. Our Federal budget must be good for the family budget.

That was my message to Congress on Tuesday. And now, I hope you'll send a message in favor of tax relief to your Congressman or your Senator. After all, the surplus is your money.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 1:05 p.m. on March 2 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on March 3. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 2 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

### **Statement on the National Guard Aircraft Tragedy in Georgia**

*March 3, 2001*

I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss of 21 members of the Florida and Virginia National Guard aboard a C-23 transport plane that crashed this morning outside Macon, Georgia. This tragic loss on a routine training mission reminds us of the sacrifices made each and every day by all of our men and women in uniform. The price of freedom is never free. Today's events remind us that it is sometimes unspeakably high. On behalf of the entire Bush family, I extend our deepest condolences to the families of the victims and to all members of the 171st Aviation Battalion of the Florida Army National Guard and the 203d Red Horse Flight of the Virginia Air National Guard. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this very difficult time.

### **Remarks on Arrival in Hampton, Virginia**

*March 4, 2001*

Well, thank you all very much. And thank you for your service to this great land of ours. Laura and I are thrilled to be here. I'm traveling today with members of my Cabinet: the Secretary of State, Colin Powell, and Alma—she is the true general in that family—[*laughter*]*—*the Secretary of Defense, Secretary Rumsfeld, and his bride; the Secretary of Energy, Secretary Abraham, and his bride.

We've assembled the finest national security team of any administration. We under-

stand our job is to keep the peace. But we also understand in order to do so, our military must be well prepared, well trained, well housed, and well paid.

One of the first policy speeches I gave was to send the message, loud and clear, to the U.S. Congress that we expect there to be a pay raise for those who wear the uniform. But what you can expect from us is a clear mission, a clear, focused mission that says our military will be trained and ready to fight and win war and, therefore, prevent war from happening in the first place.

We're honored to be here. Thank you for your service to America. Our country and the world is better off for it.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 1 p.m. at Langley Air Force Base. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary Powell's wife, Alma; Secretary Rumsfeld's wife, Joyce; and Secretary Abraham's wife, Jane. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks at the Christening Ceremony for the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan in Newport News, Virginia**

*March 4, 2001*

Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. Mr. Secretary, thank you for those kind words. I picked the right man to be the Secretary of Defense at this time in history.

Mrs. Reagan, it is an honor to be with you. Reagan family members, friends of the great President, Laura and I are honored to be here.

We join with the Governor and Senator of this State in asking for God's blessings on those who lost their lives yesterday and for their families.

Bill, thank you very much for your hospitality. Secretary Powell and Secretary Abraham, Leader Lott, Chairman Warner—I can't tell if you're trying to retire me early—[*laughter*]*—*or influence my behavior.

Senator Allen, Governor Gilmore, Representative Scott, and Members of Congress, Justice Kennedy, Admiral Clark, welcome. But most of all, I want to welcome the men

and women of the United States Navy, including the officers and crew who will soon be on the *Ronald Reagan*.

Looking at the bow of this great ship, we think of those who will sail it and of those who built it, and to this ship, 6 years in the making, we have put the finest of American workmanship. On board this ship we'll put the finest sailors in the world, and upon this ship we have put the finest of American names.

Forty-nine years ago, another outstanding American took that name herself. Mrs. Reagan, I know today is your 49th anniversary, wedding anniversary. Since your wedding day, you've seen the name Reagan written large in many places, from theater marquees to the archways of great buildings, but there is something especially fitting in the place it holds today, on the newest ship in the greatest Navy in the world. When we send her off to sea, it is certain that the *Ronald Reagan* will meet with rough waters as well as smooth and headwinds as well as fair. But she will sail tall and strong, like the man we have known.

A man cannot be strong forever, but if he is very fortunate, life will send him a partner to be strong when he is not. In a life of honors, Ronald Reagan has always valued one honor above all, the love of Nancy. It is a love that believes all, hopes all, and endures all. Mrs. Reagan, anyone who has seen you together knows how much you mean to him. I want you to know how much your care and love for him means to America.

It was said of a great architect centuries ago, "If you want to seek his monument, look around you." That is true of Ronald Reagan. We live in a world shaped in so many ways by his will and heart. As President, Ronald Reagan believed without question that tyranny is temporary, and the hope of freedom is universal and permanent; that our Nation has a unique goodness and must remain uniquely strong; that God takes the side of justice, because all our rights are His own gifts. The strength of these beliefs gave strength to our allies and hope to political prisoners and courage to average citizens in oppressed nations and leadership to our military and to our country.

Some achievements fade with the years. Ronald Reagan's achievements grow larger with the passing of time. He had a profound vision of America's role in the world as one of peace through strength. And because of Ronald Reagan, the world saw America as a strong and peaceful nation.

Today's world is different from the one he faced and changed. We are no longer divided into armed camps, locked in a careful balance of terror. Yet, freedom still has enemies. Our present dangers are less concentrated and more varied. They come from rogue nations, from terrorism, from missiles that threaten our forces, our friends, our allies, and our homeland. Our times call for new thinking. But the values Ronald Reagan brought to America's conduct in the world will not change.

So as we dedicate this ship, I want to re-dedicate American policy to Ronald Reagan's vision of optimism, modesty, and resolve. Ronald Reagan's optimism defined his character, and it defined his Presidency. More than a habit of mind, this optimism sprang from deep confidence in the power and future of American ideals. Great democracies, he believed, are built on the strong foundation of consent and human dignity; any Government built on oppression is built on sand. The future, he proclaimed, belongs to the free.

That belief has lost none of its power to inspire hope and change. Around the world today, the expectation of freedom is fed by free markets and expanded by free trade and carried across borders by the Internet. And nations that try to restrict these freedoms are in a losing battle with liberty.

America, by nature, stands for freedom. And we must always remember, we benefit when it expands. So we will stand by those nations moving towards freedom. We'll stand up to those nations who deny freedom and threaten our neighbors or our vital interests, and we will assert emphatically that the future will belong to the free.

At the same time President Reagan understood that this confidence should never be arrogance. No one was better at using the bully pulpit of the Presidency, but under his leadership America was never a bully.

One of the ways we show the world we take our values seriously is to live by them, ourselves. Our Nation cherishes freedom, but we do not own it. While it is the birthright of every American, it is also the equal promise of the religious believer in southern Sudan or an Iraqi farmer in the Tigris Valley or of a child born in China today. We help fulfill that promise not by lecturing the world but by leading it.

Precisely because America is powerful, we must be sensitive about expressing our power and influence. Our goal is to patiently build the momentum of freedom, not create resentment for America itself. We pursue our goals; we will listen to others; we want strong friends to join us, not weak neighbors to dominate. In all our dealings with other nations, we will display the modesty of true confidence and strength.

Finally, Ronald Reagan understood that the advance of freedom depends on American strength. We must have a military that is second to none and that includes a Navy that is second to none.

As has been mentioned, for the last 60 years, every President has had to ask, "Where are the carriers?" None has ever been disappointed by the Navy's response. Just a few weeks ago, I asked the same question and called upon the *Harry S. Truman* in the Persian Gulf. Ronald Reagan built the military of today, the military that keeps our peace, but we cannot live forever on that legacy. Our challenge is to build a military that will deter and win the wars of the future.

Almost 20 years ago, President Reagan made his first visit to an aircraft carrier, the U.S.S. *Constellation*. He told the sailors how grateful America was that they were there as a powerful force in an uncertain world. One hundred thousand tons of American power, you see over here, will carry forward this proud tradition. In fact, in 2 years, the *Reagan* will actually replace U.S.S. *Constellation*.

What you don't see is what's different between those two magnificent vessels. The island on the *Reagan*'s main deck is almost the same height as that of its predecessors, but it has one less level. The empty space will be filled with cables that will tie the ship into a vast network that connects information and

weapons in new ways. This will revolutionize the Navy's ability to project American power over land and sea, assuring access for all our forces wherever our vital interests are threatened.

These new capabilities are the future of our military, not just the Navy but of all our services. It is a future where a revolution in technology will change the face of war, itself. We'll keep the peace by redefining the terms of war. We'll change our military, yet we will never forget that America's strength ultimately depends on the courage and spirit of the men and women who wear the uniform.

Nearly half our ships are at sea right now. One-third are forward-deployed overseas, taking their crew away from family and the comforts of home. In our sleep we don't think about the enemies that the men and women who wear the uniform deter, the friends they reassure, the freedom in trade they guarantee. Yet, we rest at night protected by the security they provide.

As President, Ronald Reagan understood our duty to these brave Americans, and so do I. Our men and women in uniform give America their best, and we owe them our support in return. These are the defining qualities of Ronald Reagan: optimism, modesty, and strength. They're also the qualities that will guide America in a new century.

So, today, the *Ronald Reagan* begins its journey into the bright and peaceful dawn that President Reagan helped to bring. All of us here wish the ship *Ronald Reagan* Godspeed, and we wish Ronald Reagan God's blessings.

God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:52 p.m. at Newport News Shipbuilding. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. James S. Gilmore III of Virginia; William P. Fricks, chairman and chief executive officer, Newport News Shipbuilding; and Admiral Vernon E. Clark, USN, Chief of Naval Operations.

### **Statement on the Death of James Rhodes**

*March 4, 2001*

America and Ohio lost a great man today, Governor Jim Rhodes. Laura and I share in

this time of mourning with the people of Ohio. Jim was a dedicated, honorable public servant. His distinguished career included representing Ohio and its people longer than any other Governor in the State's history. Our thoughts and prayers are with his daughters, Suzanne and Sharon, and his entire family.

**Remarks at the Swearing-In Ceremony for Joe M. Allbaugh as Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency**

*March 5, 2001*

Thank you all very much. It's an honor to be here to swear in my friend. I first want to say it's a treat to see Mr. and Mrs. Allbaugh from the great State of Oklahoma, and his brother, most importantly, Diane and Taylor. Thank you all for being here. Of course, you wouldn't have missed it. [*Laughter*]

When I was a Governor, Joe and I used to travel a lot together, and a lot of times people would come up and say, "Is he your bodyguard?" [*Laughter*] He wasn't, but I always felt a little safer when he was around. And that's the kind of man he is, and that's the kind of man I wanted to run FEMA.

When the worst happens anywhere in America, I can assure you folks will be confident when Joe Allbaugh arrives on the scene. He's not just a commanding presence, or his stylish hair cut—[*laughter*—it's his confidence, his character, and his calm when trouble comes. This isn't mere speculation.

Last Wednesday at 10:54 in the morning, an earthquake rocked the State of Washington, injuring hundreds of people and causing billion dollars of property damage. By 11:30 that night, Joe Allbaugh was on the scene ready to assist people in need. That's the kind of man he is.

I couldn't have made it to Washington without him. And I can't tell you how honored I am that he has come to Washington to serve his country.

We never know where FEMA will be needed next, but we do know what makes this Agency so effective: more than 2,000 dedicated employees all across America;

4,000 standby employees, ready if needed; an ethic of professionalism and a willingness to work with State and local officials to help people in need.

As Governor I worked with FEMA officials. Joe and I have great respect for the outgoing Director, James Lee Witt, and for the acting Director, John Magaw. A lot of change is needed in Washington, but in this Agency the standards are already high. Every year, many thousands of Americans live through floods and hurricanes and fires. They know from personal experience that FEMA is an example of the Federal Government at its best. And I'll tell you from personal experience that FEMA has a new Director that speaks to America at its best.

When he acts, he'll have my full confidence. When he speaks, it will inspire confidence in others. This Agency is in strong and steady hands. Joe will be at the White House many times in the next few years. In the nature of his job, they won't always be the happiest of times. But Joe will help Americans deal with the worst in the best, most compassionate way possible.

Thank you for accepting this responsibility.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:15 a.m. in the Columbia Room at the Holiday Inn Capitol At The Smithsonian. In his remarks, he referred to Director Allbaugh's parents, Marvin and Peggy, his brother, Jay, wife, Diane, and daughter, Taylor. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Director Allbaugh.

**Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders and an Exchange With Reporters**

*March 5, 2001*

***Santana High School Shootings***

***The President.*** Before I talk about the business at hand here, I want to say how saddened we all are to know that two students lost their lives in southern California, others have been injured, in a disgraceful act of cowardice.

When America teaches their children right from wrong and teaches values to respect life and the values that respect life in our country, our country will be better off.

Our hearts go out and our prayers go out to the parents and the teachers and the children whose lives have been completely turned upside down right now.

**Q.** What can the President do to stop, if anything, to stop children from shooting children?

**The President.** All of us, all adults in society can teach children right from wrong, can explain there is a—that life is precious. All of us must be mindful of the fact that some people may decide to act out their aggressions or their pain and hurt on somebody else, and be diligent.

We don't know enough of the facts right now, Ron [Ron Fournier, Associated Press], as to what took place. But I do know that first things are first, and that is, our prayers go with the families who lost a child today.

### **Legislative Agenda**

On another matter, I'm honored that Members of the House and the Senate came up to discuss a couple of issues—the budget, Medicare, Medicare funding, Medicare restructuring, and tax relief. We've had a good discussion.

I didn't mention many names of Members during my speech to the Congress nearly a week ago, but most of the names I mentioned are here. And the reason why I talked about Breaux, Frist, and Thomas—and I would have worked in you, Mr. Chairman, but—was because there had been a lot of work done on discussing Medicare modernization in the past. And I believe the framework for a bipartisan consensus about how to make sure the Medicare system fulfills its promise is at hand, and we've got a lot of work to do.

But I assured these Members—two chairmen, as well as the Members I just named—that this administration is here to work with them to do what's right for our seniors.

I also appreciate the progress being made on the tax relief package. It will give me a chance to thank the chairman for moving the bill to the floor of the House. The sooner we can get that done, the more likely it is that we'll provide relief for people and provide a second wind for our economy, and then we'll be able to deal with issues such as Medicare.

### **Tax Cut Legislation**

**Q.** Mr. President, is your tax bill in trouble? Is that why you're traveling so much this week? Some Democrats think that might be the case.

**The President.** Oh, I'm—first of all, I like to get out of Washington, Bill [Bill Plante, CBS News]. [Laughter] Secondly, I'm pleased with the progress that we're making. We're going to get a good bill out of both the House and the Senate. I look forward to signing it, and the sooner, the better. But we're making very good progress.

Secondly, I think it's important for the President to get out amongst the people. I'm not only going to be going to North Dakota and South Dakota and Illinois this week; I'm coming down to Louisiana. And I've got a lot of friends in Louisiana, and I'm looking forward to seeing them and talking to them and explaining what's going on in Washington. The American people want to hear from the President, and this will give me a chance to talk about the progress that we're all making together. And we're making good progress.

**Q.** Mr. President?

**The President.** Yes, Stretch [David Gregory, NBC News]?

### **President's Upcoming Visits to North Dakota and Louisiana**

**Q.** Kent Conrad is one of the opponents of the tax cut plan. You're going to his State; you're also going to Louisiana, where Mary Landrieu—everyone knows is going to be under pressure to support the bill. Is it a coincidence that you're going to be going there, or is this trip part of the intention to send them a message?

**The President.** I think there's some methodology in my travels. Not only—you mentioned two fine Senators, and I'm confident we'll be able to work with them as time goes on. Those also happen to be States where the majority of the folks there saw it my way when I was running for President.

I'll be going to States where we've got a good chance of convincing Members in States where maybe there's some obstinance. But nevertheless, I need to get out, and with the people, and talk about the plans and why this plan is fair and why it makes sense and

why it's important for the economic vitality of the country. We're making good progress. We'll get a good bill, and I look forward to signing it.

### **Russia-U.S. Relations**

**Q.** Mr. President, are you going to apologize to the Russians for digging under their Embassy?

**The President.** You need to talk to the appropriate folks involved with that.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:45 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks Honoring the NCAA Football and Women's Softball Champion Oklahoma Sooners**

*March 5, 2001*

**The President.** Sit down. [Laughter] It's an honor to be here. This is the first championship teams that I've had a chance to honor since I've been the President. And it's a big deal for a boy from Texas to welcome the folks from Oklahoma here. [Laughter] I was going to say, "my fellow Texans."

I am so proud of you all. Thank you for coming. Senator, thank you for being here. Congressman, I appreciate you being here. President Boren, you had quite a year—you had quite a year.

First, let me say to the unsinkable bunch of upstarts, the ladies softball team: Congratulations. Coach Patricia Gasso has done a fabulous job, and I'm honored that you all have come. I am fully aware of the dominance of California teams in ladies softball, and you proved that those of us who live in the middle part of the country can win, as well.

And to the football team. Congratulations, coach, I know you're proud of these people. We share a lot in common. We both started our respective campaigns as underdogs. [Laughter] We both won our championships in the State of Florida. [Laughter] There's a big difference though: It took you all 60 minutes. [Laughter] It took me 36 days. [Laughter]

But it's my honor to welcome you all here. I like to remind those who are champions on the field that it's important to be a champion off the field, too; that there's a lot of young men and women who look at you all as champs. And that adds an added burden, an added sense of responsibility; that if part of our role as role models is to set the—is to explain the difference between right and wrong to people looking at us, then we've got to live that way.

Being the champ, the national champ, is an awesome responsibility. It means not only do you get to carry a trophy, it means you have the burden of setting the example, of saying to young kids, somebody cares about you enough so that we'll help you make the right choices in life, so they get to be a champion, not only on the football fields or on the softball diamonds but in life—in life. And so, I am so honored you're here. I really appreciate you coming.

I'm proud of your victory. It's a big deal to be the national champs. But it's also going to be a big deal to set the right example for some young lady or some young man who wonders whether or not life's worth it all, as you've proven it is. You've proven that if you set a goal and work hard, you can achieve it. And so congratulations to the great University of Oklahoma teams. I'm proud to welcome you. I'm proud you're here in the people's house. It is an honor to be your President—more than you can possibly imagine. And it's an honor to welcome you here.

God bless.

[At this point, University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren, head softball coach Patty Gasso, Director of Athletics Joe Castiglione, and head football coach Bob Stoops each made brief remarks and presented the President with gifts.]

**The President.** Well, thank you all for coming. I look forward to shaking everybody's hand. And I guess it's time to get a few pictures.

But again, I want to welcome you all here. This is a majestic place, as you can see. It is a magnificent home, and it's the people's house. That's what we like to call it. We're just temporary residents. But it's an honor to have you all here. I hope you get a good

tour and realize this country is a fantastic place. It's based upon the greatest principle of all: We're all free, and we're all equal under the eyes of God.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:45 p.m. in the East Room at the White House.

### **Proclamation 7413—Save Your Vision Week, 2001**

*March 5, 2001*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

As part of our regular health routine, we often overlook vision. Good vision affects how we work, communicate, and learn. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, about 80 million Americans suffer from potentially blinding eye diseases, 3 million have low vision, and 200,000 more are severely visually impaired.

Visual impairment can strike at any time. Some eye diseases, such as diabetic retinopathy, can develop and damage the eye without warning. Also, visual impairment can develop more often in certain groups. For example, some groups of Americans have a higher risk for glaucoma, including those over the age of 60, African Americans over the age of 40, and people who have a family history of the disease.

Visual impairment can also strike the future of this country: our children. Infants and young children are not immune to eye disorders. Amblyopia, poor vision in an eye that did not develop normal sight during early childhood, causes problems in very early life. Early vision screening is important for our young people to ensure that their eyes receive immediate treatment if problems are found. Also, myopia, or nearsightedness, affects 15 percent of those entering high school.

Many occupations and forms of recreation can present dangers to the eye. Eye protection is a necessity when jobs create the possibility of eye injury. Wearing protective eyewear when playing sports can cut down on eye injury by as much as 90 percent, and

wearing eye protection when working in the yard can also reduce the number of serious eye injuries.

The best way to detect eye diseases and disorders is through a dilated eye exam. Many eye problems can be prevented or reversed with early detection and appropriate intervention.

There are many other ways we can help reduce vision disorders. We can make healthy lifestyle choices for ourselves and our families, clinicians can emphasize prevention in their practices, and scientists can pursue new treatments and prevention strategies through research. Using both traditional and innovative approaches, we can all work to make better vision and vision protection an important part of our Nation's public health agenda.

The Congress, by joint resolution approved December 30, 1963 (77 Stat. 629; 36 U.S.C. 138), has authorized and requested the President to proclaim the first week in March of each year as "Save Your Vision Week."

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 4 through March 10, 2001, as "Save Your Vision Week." I urge all Americans to participate by making eye care and eye safety an important part of their lives and to ensure that dilated eye examinations are included in their regular health maintenance programs. I invite eye care professionals, the media, and all public and private organizations dedicated to preserving eyesight to join in activities that will raise awareness of the measures we can take to protect and sustain our vision.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 7, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

**Proclamation 7414—Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy, 2001**

March 5, 2001

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Our democratic system of government traces its earliest roots back to ancient Greece. The leaders of the Revolution and the Framers of the Constitution often drew inspiration from Athenian lawgivers and philosophers and called the Greek example to mind as they sought to build the new nation on the foundations of representative government and free political discourse. The Greeks of 1821 drew inspiration, in turn, from the ideals and institutions of the fledgling United States as they waged their own struggle for liberty. In 2001, a vibrant Greek democracy serves once again as an inspiration to its neighbors and the world.

Our two countries have stood together as friends and allies from the time America embraced modern Greece's struggle for independence 180 years ago. We fought together in every major war of the last century: World War I through the Persian Gulf. For more than 50 years, we have worked together in NATO: first to keep the peace in Europe and now to build peace and stability in the Balkans. We look forward to continued cooperation as we celebrate the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad together in Athens in 2004. Our alliance with Greece remains strong, and its future is promising.

Greeks and Americans share a love of freedom, liberty, and individual rights. The friendship between our two Nations is based on mutual respect, a commitment to common goals, and the sharing of fundamental values. Ties of blood and kinship also unite us: the modern community of approximately 3 million Greek Americans has established a natural and enduring bridge between our nations. Today, we take special note of those citizens and thank them for their innumerable contributions to our Nation's cultural, economic, and political heritage.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 25, 2001, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy." I call upon all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 7, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

**Memorandum on Delegation of Authority**

March 5, 2001

*Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense*

*Subject:* Delegation of Authority Under Section 1307 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3 of the United States Code, I hereby delegate to the Secretary of Defense the authority vested in me under section 1307 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398).

The authority delegated by this memorandum may be redelegated not lower than the Assistant Secretary level.

Any reference in this memorandum to the provision of any Act shall be deemed to include references to any hereafter-enacted provision of law that is the same or substantially the same as such provision.

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:46 a.m., March 9, 2001]

NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on March 12.

### Exchange With Reporters Following a Meeting With Mayor Richard M. Daley in Chicago, Illinois

March 6, 2001

#### President's Visit to Chicago

**Q.** Why don't you tell us what's on the conversation table?

**Mayor Daley.** [*Inaudible*]*—*a wonderful book on Chicago, the great past, present, and future of this city. So I'm very honored and pleased to be here at luncheon with the President.

**The President.** I just got a lesson in Chicago politics. [*Laughter*]

**Q.** What is that lesson, Mr. President?

**The President.** [*Inaudible*]*—*for the second time in 6 months. [*Laughter*]

**Mayor Daley.** I told him we both have great brothers. [*Laughter*]

**The President.** That if you run for President, make sure you get the mayor on your side. [*Laughter*]

I respect Mayor Daley. I don't know if you remember, but every time I came to Illinois I always made a point of saying that I wish the mayor were on my side, because he'll make a huge difference for people he backs. More importantly, he's made a huge difference for the people of this city. He's one of the Nation's really good mayors.

We had a long-ranging discussion, and I came just to introduce myself so he got to know me. And he now knows he can pick up the phone and call the White House anytime he needs to.

**Q.** Can you give us a bit of insight into what you all talked about?

**The President.** We talked about just about everything. We talked politics, of course, and we talked about issues that face Chicago. He gave me a lot of good advice—want to pay attention to the big-city mayors. And I told him we've got a lot in common; we're both problem solvers, the kind of people that when we identify a problem, we try to work hard to solve it. And that's what the

mayor's reputation has been. I also thanked him for the good work he's done on education reform here in Chicago.

#### Tax Cut Legislation

**Q.** How about selling him on the budget and tax cuts?

**The President.** We didn't spend a lot of time on the budget. I'm going to spend a little more time downstairs on the budget. The mayor gave me some interesting advice on tax relief that—as you know, he made—well, he can speak for himself, but he talked about the earned-income tax credit and the need for the good citizens of this city who are eligible for the EITC to go out and find it.

#### Vice President Dick Cheney

**Q.** How's the Vice President?

**The President.** I haven't talked to him. I talked to him late yesterday afternoon. He sounded great. He told me he'd be back to work soon.

**Q.** Should he cut back on workload?

**The President.** No, he shouldn't.

**Q.** Why not? Is the job—

**The President.** Well, because he's needed. This country needs his wisdom and judgment. And he's the kind of man who listens carefully to his body, and he is not going to put himself in a position where he gets very sick. Anytime there's any doubt as to whether or not he needs to see a doctor, he'll see a doctor. And he's plenty strong and plenty capable of carrying the workload that he's been working in the past.

Keep in mind, I'm not his doctor. It's going to be up to his doctor and his wife and his family to make the decision. But I don't think he needs to cut back on his work.

**Q.** What advice did you offer—[*inaudible*]?<sup>2</sup>

**Q.** [*Inaudible*]*—*job of Vice President, with all it currently entails, too stressful for him?

**The President.** Not at all.

Ann [Ann Compton, ABC News], good to see you.

NOTE: The exchange began at 1:45 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

## Remarks at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in Chicago

March 6, 2001

Well, thank you all. Thank you very much. Scott, thank you very much. I thought I had seen just about everything in life, until I came here. [Laughter] It is an honor to be in entrepreneurial heaven. What an exciting place. Thanks for having me. I appreciate the hospitality, and I appreciate you giving me a chance to come and talk a little tax policy with you.

I've had quite a day here in Chicago. I got a Chicago political lesson for lunch. [Laughter] I dined with the mayor. It's the second political lesson I've had in recent weeks. [Laughter] The first lesson I got was in early November—[laughter]—if you know what I mean. [Laughter] I told the people of Illinois every time I came here, I said, "I wish the mayor were on my side, because he's good." But more importantly, he's a really good mayor. He's a good mayor of a big city. We've had our time for politics; now it's time to do what's right for our country and for the cities.

The mayor and I share something in common. We're both problem solvers. We try to have a clear-eyed view and a commonsense approach to solving problems. And so we're going to have a good relationship. And I'm so honored the mayor was gracious in dining with me.

I'm also honored to be here with the Speaker of the House—just happens to be from the State of Illinois. I like to describe the Speaker as a trustworthy man. He's the kind of fellow who says when he gives you his word, he means it. Sometimes that doesn't happen all the time in the political process. Sometimes they'll look you in the eye and not mean it. [Laughter] The Speaker means it when he tells you something. I look forward to working with you, Mr. Speaker.

I'm honored to be traveling with your United States Senator Fitzgerald. We flew down on Air Force One today. He's a good young leader. Congressman Lipinski is with us. We're going to fly back from here to Washington. He and I will have a little quality time together. [Laughter] I'm looking forward to it, because he's a quality person. I

appreciate the Lieutenant Governor coming, as well, and thank you very much for your hospitality.

There's a lot of people here reminding me that they're from Texas, and I appreciate my fellow Texans who are here—a lot of Chicago folks thanking me for the Sammy Sosa trade. [Laughter] I'm reminded about the truth when I come to a place like this—the entrepreneurial spirit is what America is all about. That's what this country is about.

The job of Government is not to try to create wealth. That's not the role of our Government. The role of Government is to create an environment in which the entrepreneur can realize his or her dreams, which the small business person can start a company and make it grow. So my job is not only to deal with problems; my job is to understand the philosophy that has made the country great—and never forget it, never forget it—and that is that we're going to have dreamers in America.

We're facing a problem, and the problem is our economy's slowing down. You all know that as well as anybody does. This kind of great boom is beginning to sputter a little bit. And the question you need to be asking the President is, "What do you intend to do about it, Mr. President?" And here it is.

One, have sound budgeting in the Federal Government. It's to say to the spenders in Washington, DC, "Here are the priorities for our country." A priority is educating children. And let me—as an aside, as I continue to praise the mayor—he has done a good job of setting high standards, strong accountability in the schools of Chicago. So a priority of mine is public education. I believe every child—every child—ought to be educated and not one child left behind.

A priority is to make sure we keep the peace by having a strong military. We need to pay the men and women who wear the uniform more money, to keep morale high. A priority is Social Security, to make sure the moms and dads of the World War II generation get the promises made. But it's also to be bold enough to reform the system, to let younger workers take some of your own payroll taxes and manage it for your own account. That's a priority of mine. Medicare and health care is a priority. And we double

the Medicare budget over 10 years. We pay down \$2 trillion of debt. But guess what? There's still money left over. If you don't spend like they spent the last couple of years, if you're wise and set priorities, there's still money. And the fundamental question is, do we grow the Government, or do we trust people with their own money? That's the fundamental question facing the United States Congress.

I had the honor of speaking to the Congress. I reminded them that when the Government has a surplus, somebody is getting overcharged. And I'm here asking for a refund, I said. I want to reduce those taxes.

I think it is particularly appropriate to not only cut taxes to make sure there's fiscal discipline in Washington, but it's necessary to make sure this economy doesn't continue to sputter. When you give people some of their own money back, or don't take it in the first place, they will have money in their pockets to spend.

There's some debt, all right, at the national level, and there's plenty of debt on the consumers of America. I bet you've got friends, and maybe yourself, understand what it means to have credit card debt. And when you couple that with high energy bills, there are some people beginning to feel pinched.

It makes sense to take some of your money and pass it back to the people who pay the bills. And that's exactly what my tax relief plan does. It drops all rates. It dropped all rates on all payers. Sometimes in Washington, you hear the talk, we'll have targeted tax cuts. That means the elected officials get to decide who's targeted in and who's targeted out. That's not fair, and that's not the right way to do it. If you're going to have tax relief, everybody who pays taxes ought to get tax relief.

So we drop all the rates and simplify the code. We drop the bottom rate from 15 percent to 10 percent and increase the child credit from \$500 to \$1,000 to make the code more fair. The Tax Code's unfair for people at the bottom end of the economic ladder. The harder you struggle, the more—higher marginal rate you pay in America, and that's not right. So we make the code more fair.

But we also drop that top rate, from 39.6 to 33 percent. And we do so for this reason:

Much of the capital that accumulates in the private sector ends up being managed by small-business owners. Small business is the backbone of the country. Many of you all are small-business owners. Ninety-five percent of small-business owners pay the highest marginal rate in our Tax Code. They're unincorporated businesses. They're what we call sole proprietors.

When we cut that top rate from 39.6 percent to 33 percent, we're saying a loud and clear message that the entrepreneurial spirit will be reinvigorated as we head into the 21st century. It's a way to pass capital formation in the small-business sector in America. And it's the right thing to do.

It's the right thing to set priorities. It's the right thing to pay down \$2 trillion of debt over 10 years, and it is the right thing not to grow the Federal Government bigger than it needs to be, and trust people with your own money. I like to tell people in Washington, the surplus isn't the Government's money; the surplus is the people's money, and we need to share it with the people.

I like to move around the country. I like to get out of Washington, because you see a lot of interesting things and you hear a lot of wisdom from people who are just average, everyday people. And I want to tell you what a grandmother told the other day, in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She said, "I have a lot of children and grandchildren go through my house." She said, "and I know if there are cookies left on the table, they will be eaten." She said that in the context of your taxpayers—of tax dollars. That's what she was talking about. And her point is this: If we leave the money up in Washington and don't send it back to the people, it's, sure enough, going to be spent.

Now is the time—now is the time for meaningful, real tax relief. And as we're changing the Tax Code, by the way, we need to eliminate the death tax, too. We need to allow it so that you don't get taxed twice for your assets. And we need to do something about the marriage penalty. It doesn't make sense to tax marriage. And so I'm here to ask for your help.

See, I believe in the power of the people. I truly do. I do. I believe that when you e-mail a Congressman or a Senator, it makes

a difference. It makes a difference. And so that's why I'm traveling the country, and that's why I came here. I'd like for you to contact your Congressman and contact your Senator and tell them to come on the side of the people, when it comes to what to do with your money. We have a fundamental choice, and the right choice is to stand on the side of the people.

And let me conclude by telling you, the tax policy's important, and there will be a lot of tax policy. And of course, good health policy's important, and keeping the peace is important. But there's nothing more important than remembering that the most important job you'll ever have, if you happen to be a mom or a dad, is to love your children with all your heart and all your soul.

I was reminded of that when I walked through and saw the pictures that many of the entrepreneurs here in the Merc had of their children—it's such a refreshing sight to know that priorities are kept all across America.

This is a fabulous nation we live in. It's a nation based upon great values. It's a nation based upon the principle that if you work hard, anybody, regardless of where you're from, can get ahead. But it's going to be made better when all of us understand that there are certain responsibilities in life. I have a responsibility as your President. And when I put my hand on the Bible, I swore to uphold that responsibility, and I will. And you have the responsibility to love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself. But it all starts with loving your children.

Thank you for letting me come by. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:27 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Scott Gordon, chairman, Chicago Mercantile Exchange; Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, IL; and Lt. Gov. Corinne Wood of Illinois.

### **Message on the Observance of Eid al-Adha**

*March 6, 2001*

Warm greetings to Muslims across the United States as you celebrate the Eid al-Adha holiday and join in spirit with the mil-

lions gathered in Mecca to uphold the traditions of one of your most sacred feasts.

America was built on a strong spiritual foundation, and the celebration of faith is central to our lives. As you celebrate the annual Hajj, the fifth pillar of Islam, you honor the great sacrifice and devotion of Abraham as recognized by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. By educating others about your religious traditions, you enrich the lives of others in your local communities.

The variety of nations and cultures represented by those who travel to Mecca each year, and the varied ways in which Muslims contribute to American life across the United States, are powerful reminders that ethnic and racial differences need not divide us when we share common values and purposes. By building strong foundations of mutual respect, we can achieve peace and reconciliation in our world.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a joyous holiday celebration.

**George W. Bush**

### **Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus**

*March 6, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period December 1, 2000–January 31, 2001. The previous submission covered events during October and November 2000.

The United Nations continued in its efforts to sustain the proximity talks that started in December 1999. The United States remains committed to the United Nations effort to find a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting a Report on  
Telecommunications Payments  
to Cuba**

*March 6, 2001*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, Public Law 104–114, 110 Stat. 785, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6), I transmit herewith a semiannual report detailing payments made to Cuba by United States persons as a result of the provision of telecommunications services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
March 6, 2001.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting the Trade Policy  
Agenda and a Report on the Trade  
Agreements Program**

*March 6, 2001*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 2001 Trade Policy Agenda and 2000 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
March 6, 2001.

**Remarks Prior to Discussions With  
President Kim Dae-jung of South  
Korea and an Exchange With  
Reporters**

*March 7, 2001*

**President Bush.** Everybody in? It's been my honor to welcome President Kim here to the Oval Office. We had a very good discussion. We confirmed the close relationship between our two countries. We talked about

a lot of subjects, and we'll be glad to answer questions on some of those subjects. But first let me say how much I appreciate this man's leadership in terms of reaching out to the North Koreans.

He is leading; he is a leader. He is—and we've had a very frank discussion about his vision for peace on the Peninsula. It's a goal we share. After all, we've got vested interests there, and we had a very good discussion. I made it clear to the President, we look forward to working toward peace on the Peninsula, that we'll consult closely, that we'll stay in touch, that I do have some skepticism about the leader of North Korea, but that's not going to preclude us from trying to achieve the common objectives.

So, Mr. President, welcome. Thank you for being here.

**President Kim.** First of all, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to President Bush for inviting me to visit Washington and have this meeting with him, despite his very busy schedule, I'm sure, in these early weeks after inauguration.

I'm delighted to have had this opportunity to start building friendship and close cooperative working relationship with President Bush on a variety of issues. I thank the President for sharing his insight and wisdom with me concerning the situation in northeast Asia and the world, in general. And while discussing things with him, I could feel that I was sitting next to a leader who would take the world to greater peace and prosperity in the 21st century.

President Bush and I covered the whole variety of issues in ROK–U.S. relations. It has been a most useful exchange of views. We have agreed to work together towards the further strengthening of the ROK–U.S. alliance, and our close policy coordination in dealing with North Korea towards the goal of ending the cold war and strengthening peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.

And taking this opportunity, I would like to invite you, Mr. President, to come and visit us in Seoul, as early as you can, so that we will have another opportunity to further strengthen the close cooperative working relationship between our two allies.

**President Bush.** Thank you, sir.

I'm going to take a couple of questions from the American press. I would hope that the South Korean press would be willing—we'll alternate.

Fournier [Ron Fournier, Associated Press].

#### **North Korea**

**Q.** Mr. President, the Secretary of State just told us that you made it clear you would not be fooled by the North Korean regime. Can you expand on that? And are you afraid that the South Koreans, in their haste, their energy to make peace, might be not forcing North Korea to make certain concessions that need to be made?

**President Bush.** First, we had a very frank discussion about North Korea. There's no question in my mind that the President of the Republic of Korea is a realist. He knows exactly with whom we're dealing. He's under no illusions. I also told the President that we look forward to, at some point in the future, having a dialog with the North Koreans, but that any negotiation would require complete verification of the terms of a potential agreement.

And so I look forward to strengthening our relationship, first and foremost. And we will have a constant dialog as to the progress that is being made on the Peninsula, and our foreign policy will respond in a way that will reinforce the efforts of the President but at the same time—and at the same time, make it clear to all parties concerned that any agreement must make the Peninsula more peaceful, and we must be able to verify that it is more peaceful.

I am concerned about the fact that the North Koreans are shipping weapons around the world. And any agreement that would convince them not to do so would be beneficial, but we want to make sure that their ability to develop and spread weapons of mass destruction was, in fact, stopped—they're willing to stop it—and that we can verify that, in fact, they had stopped it.

But Ron, there's no question that this President takes a realistic view of the man with whom we're dealing.

**Q.** Mr. President, do you believe that North Korea is living up to its other agree-

ments with the United States, Japan, South Korea?

**President Bush.** South Korean press. I'll get you in a minute, Jim [Jim Angle, Fox News].

#### **U.S. Presidential Transition/Korean Peninsula**

**Q.** A question to President Kim of South Korea. Mr. President, you say that you've had sufficient, fruitful exchange of views with President Bush. This is a transitional period in which you have to deal with a new administration, a change from the Clinton administration now to the Bush administration. You say that you do not expect any major changes in the work that you do together. But President Bush has greatly emphasized the pragmatic and realistic approaches in dealing with North Korea. In that regard, do you detect any change, and what do you think is the greatest outcome of this summit meeting today?

**President Kim.** The greatest outcome today has to be that through a frank and honest exchange of views on the situation on the Korean Peninsula, we have increased the mutual understanding.

On North Korea, yes, there are many problems that remain, but President Bush has clearly expressed his strong support for our efforts to further the dialog with North Korea. On my part, I have assured him that as we try to advance the dialog with North Korea, we will consult with the United States every step of the way, so that the progress in South-North Korean relations serves the interest of our two countries and that it serves to strengthen peace on the Korean Peninsula.

President Bush was very frank and honest in sharing with me his perceptions about the nature of North Korea and the North Korean leader, and this is very important for me to take back home and to consider.

**President Bush.** Jim.

**Q.** Yes, sir. Sorry to go out of order, sir.

**President Bush.** Do you remember the question?

#### **North Korea/National Missile Defense**

**Q.** I believe I do, sir. There are some other agreements that the U.S., Japan, and South

Korea are party to with North Korea. Do you believe that they are living up to the agreements they have made?

And if I could, sir, a question for President Kim, as well. You had said last week with Mr. Putin that the 1972 ABM Treaty was the foundation of stability in the world. Do you still believe that, and were you quoted accurately, sir?

**President Kim.** On the controversy surrounding that inclusion of that reference to the ABM in the South Korea-Russia joint statement recently, our foreign ministry negotiated that statement with the Russians, and that phrase—in coming up with that phrase we've taken into consideration the documents that came out of the G-8 Okinawa Summit and various other international consultations that the United States was part of.

This in no way reflects our position on the NMD issues. This is not an indication of our opposition to the NMD. The Russian side, in fact, initially very strongly wished to include such a phrase that would indicate an opposition, and we resisted to the very end.

And so when we saw this controversy unexpectedly arising after the joint statement came out, I regretted the misunderstanding. And so I ordered my foreign ministry to come out with an immediate clarification of our position.

**President Bush.** Part of the problem in dealing with North Korea, there's not very much transparency. We're not certain as to whether or not they're keeping all terms of all agreements. And that's part of the issue that the President and I discussed, is when you make an agreement with a country that is secretive, how do you—how are you aware as to whether or not they're keeping the terms of the agreement?

The President was very forthright in describing his vision, and I was forthright in describing my support for his vision, as well as my skepticism about whether or not we can verify an agreement in a country that doesn't enjoy the freedoms that our two countries understand—don't have the free press like we have here in America.

### **North Korean-U.S. Negotiations**

**Q.** President Kim, do you believe that it would strengthen South Korea's security for the United States to immediately resume the negotiations that President Clinton's administration had taken with North Korea regarding its missile program? And if so, did you make that case to President Bush today?

**President Kim.** First of all, we sincerely hope that the North Korean missile issue will be resolved with transparency. But of course, the United States is the counterpart dealing with North Korea in the negotiations over the missile issue. We have not made any suggestion whether the negotiations should be resumed now, or whatever. This is an issue for the United States to make.

**President Bush.** Let's make sure we get the members of the South Korean press—get to ask some questions, too. I'm not saying you're being overly aggressive or anything. Any further questions? Did you get to ask all the questions?

**Q.** Mr. President, one more. Was there any discussion concerning the agreed framework, the Geneva agreed framework, at the summit today?

**President Bush.** Anybody else?

### **South Korean Sunshine Policy**

**Q.** Mr. President, what is your general view about President Kim's Sunshine Policy? Do you think that that contributes to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula?

**President Bush.** Yes, I do. I do. I think that the idea of trade, flows of capital, will lead to a more peaceful Peninsula. I think open dialog, I think reunification of families will lead to a more peaceful Peninsula. Hopefully, the efforts that the President makes will convince the North Koreans that we are peaceful people and that they need not be fearful about the intentions of America and of the Republic of Korea, that we want the peace. But we must be wise and strong and consistent about making sure that peace happens.

But I believe the President is on a policy that has got peace as its goal and peace as its intentions, and with the right alliance and the right formulation of policy, hopefully, it will achieve the peace that we all want.

Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:03 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to General Secretary Kim Chong-il of North Korea. A reporter referred to President Vladimir Putin of Russia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Joint Statement Between the United States of America and the Republic of Korea**

*March 7, 2001*

President George W. Bush and President Kim Dae-jung of the Republic of Korea today reaffirmed the fundamental importance and strength of the U.S.-ROK security alliance, which has prevented war and promoted stability, prosperity, and democracy on the Korean Peninsula for over five decades. The two Presidents pledged to deepen further the comprehensive partnership shared by the United States and the Republic of Korea through enhanced security, political, economic and cultural cooperation.

The two Presidents agreed that reconciliation and cooperation between South and North Korea contribute to peace on the Korean Peninsula and lasting stability in Northeast Asia. President Bush expressed support for the Republic of Korea Government's policy of engagement with North Korea and President Kim's leading role in resolving inter-Korean issues. The two leaders shared the hope that a second inter-Korean summit will make a positive contribution to inter-Korean relations and Northeast Asian security.

Both Presidents reaffirmed their commitment to continue the 1994 Agreed Framework and called on North Korea to join in taking the needed steps for its successful implementation. They agreed to encourage North Korea to take actions to address the concerns of the international community. The Presidents agreed on the importance of maintaining close consultations and coordination on policy toward North Korea, both bilaterally and trilaterally with Japan.

President Bush and President Kim agreed that the global security environment is fundamentally different than during the Cold War. New types of threats, including from

weapons of mass destruction and missiles as a means of delivery, have emerged that require new approaches to deterrence and defense. The two leaders shared the view that countering these threats requires a broad strategy involving a variety of measures, including active non-proliferation diplomacy, defensive systems, and other pertinent measures. They concurred on the importance of consultations among allies and other interested parties on these measures, including missile defenses, with a view to strengthening global peace and security.

President Bush and President Kim noted that the United States and the Republic of Korea are developing more mature and mutually beneficial bilateral economic and trade relations. Both sides agreed to work together closely to support Korea's economic reform efforts and to address bilateral trade issues. The two leaders endorsed the early launch of a new round of trade negotiations in the WTO.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

### **Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Treasury Secretary Paul H. O'Neill and an Exchange With Reporters**

*March 7, 2001*

**The President.** Maybe everybody ought to try to move over.

**Assistant Press Secretary Gordon Johndroe.** You all heard the President—scoot over. [*Laughter*]

**Q.** Thank you, Mr. President.

**The President.** I'm trying to get you in the picture.

I'm pleased to be here with Secretary O'Neill and the OMB Director Mitch Daniels, who are reviewing the cash flow numbers of our country. I think the American people will be interested to know that in the first quarter of the fiscal year, we received \$74 billion more than we spent. In spite of the fact that the economy is slowing down, our cash flow coming into the Treasury is significant, which means our taxpayers are being overcharged. That's what that means. And if somebody is overcharged, they

ought to get a refund. And I'm calling upon the Congress to give the taxpayers a refund.

Mr. Secretary, thank you for letting me be here. I appreciate you reviewing the numbers with me. You might want to review them with the people here.

**Secretary Paul H. O'Neill.** Mr. President, it's a wonderful pleasure to have you in the Treasury Department. The numbers so far this year compare to last year, when we had \$42 billion worth of surplus at this point in the annual cycle. Today we have \$74 billion, as the President said. So we've basically got \$32 billion more cash surplus this year than we did last year at this same time.

And I think it clearly makes the case that we've got a structural tax system that is producing these enormous surpluses now that the President has talked about. And I'm very hopeful tomorrow the House of Representatives is going to deal squarely with the first set of issues of marginal rate returns—marginal tax rates, and we'll be well on our way to getting the Senate to accomplish the same purpose.

**The President.** I think the point of the meeting and the point the American people need to know is that we've set priorities and funded the priorities, and there's ample cash to not only fund Government, pay down debt, set aside money for contingencies, but there's ample cash to let people have their own money so that they can spend it and they can decide what to do with it.

It's a fundamental debate taking place here in Washington, DC, is whether or not we increase the size of the Federal Government beyond the basic priorities or whether we trust people with their own money.

I'm hopeful and confident that the House will do the right thing tomorrow, Mr. Secretary. I look forward to taking our message to the people. The people need to hear that we've got a commonsense approach to the budget. And the people need to hear these kind of numbers, Mr. Secretary, that you're talking about—that their hard work is producing more cash for Government than Government needs.

We'll be glad to answer a few questions.

### **National Economy**

**Q.** Mr. President, does this suggest that the economy is not slowing down? Why is the surplus larger than at this time last year?

**The President.** It suggests that—first of all, the data shows the economy is sputtering. Secondly, it suggests strongly that the taxpayer is being overcharged. And one of the things this administration is going to do is going to go to the Congress and say, "Here are the priorities: Our priorities are public education, the military, Social Security and Medicare, health care for the working uninsured." But by having commonsense budgeting, we're going to also show the people that there is ample money for them to be able to spend. And that's going to be very important to make sure the sputtering economy recovers.

### **Tax Cut Legislation**

**Q.** Mr. President, how many Democrats are in your pocket?

**The President.** What?

**Q.** How many Democrats do you have with you right now?

**The President.** He's a Republican. [Laughter] As many as we can get. This is a long process. And what I look for is the final result. That's what we're focused on. We're focused on this marginal rate cut package that's now in front of the House of Representatives. We feel good about our chances of passing this bill. It would be viewed as a major step toward tax relief and tax reform.

We'll worry about the next package when it comes out of the House, which may be the elimination of the death tax or the marriage penalty. But it's a long process. We've got to get it over to the Senate and get to conference. And we'll be working Members all the way through the process.

Tomorrow I'll be traveling to North Dakota and South Dakota and Louisiana. I'm looking forward to taking this message to the people. The people have got to hear what the Secretary just briefed me on—is that there's cash flow coming into our Treasury, enough cash flow to meet priorities and to fund crucial parts of Government, and at the same time, have meaningful, real tax relief.

**Bipartisanship/Vice President Cheney**

**Q.** Are you comfortable, sir, the process is going on in the bipartisan spirit that you called for? And as a second question, did you talk to the Vice President today, and how is he doing? I know he was at the meeting earlier.

**The President.** He was doing jumping jacks today. [*Laughter*] No, he's doing great. He is feeling healthy. I talked to him on the way back from—right after I got on the ground from Chicago last night. He felt great. He told me he'd see me first thing in the morning for our national security briefing, and he was there. He looks good, feels good, and that's good news.

Secondly, I am comfortable that we're making good progress on tax relief. Those of you who covered my campaign might remember there was a period of time in which members of the media were saying, "Well, are you ready to abandon your plan?" And I said, "No, I don't think so. I think this is the right thing for America." And all of a sudden, now it's exciting for this administration to know that the Congress will be voting on a crucial element, a meaningful tax relief.

As I understand, there's going to be a—people will have a chance to vote for another version of it, as well, on the floor of the House. And that's fine. That's good and dandy. We're confident and feel good about the chances of our view of how tax relief ought to take place. And we're confident that will be positively received.

I know it's going to be positively received by the American people when they hear that we've got ample cash flow coming into our Treasury to meet important priorities and, at the same time, with fiscal discipline, with setting priorities and funding them, and not letting the size of Government grow like it has in the past, that we can make the case that someone's mom is going to get their Medicare check, someone is going to get their Social Security check, and at the same time, people are going to get their own money back so they can make the decisions on how to spend—what's best for their families, how to spend their own money.

And that's the fundamental crux of this debate. The crux of this debate is, do we want to explode the size of the Federal Govern-

ment, do we want to increase these baselines of the Federal Government, or do we want to have fiscal responsibility, commonsense approach to the budgeting, and trust people with their own money? And tomorrow is going to be an important step toward trusting people with their own money.

**Q.** Thank you.

**The President.** See you in Fargo.

NOTE: The exchange began at 1:53 p.m. in Secretary O'Neill's office at the Department of the Treasury. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

**Remarks to Employees at the Department of the Treasury**

*March 7, 2001*

Thank you. I'm glad the Secretary invited me back. It's always nice to call on your neighbors. And as you know, we're neighbors. I get to look at this majestic building every day, and I was looking forward to the opportunity to come over and thank all the folks who work here.

We're in this deal together. Our job is to make sure that this great country fulfills its promise for everybody. And I know a lot of times people don't give you the proper—your proper due, your proper thanks for working on behalf of the American people. So from the 43d President, thank you for what you do for America. I appreciate your hard work.

I hope you're as excited about your job as I am—[*laughter*]—about mine. [*Laughter*] It's a huge honor to be your President. It really is. And it's a huge honor to be the President of the people. As you know, I'm taking to the road on occasion. Tomorrow I'm going to Fargo, North Dakota, and South Dakota and Louisiana. I decided to drop in on my own home State of Texas for the weekend. But it is so refreshing to be able to take a message to the people that in Washington we listen to you, that we understand we're the servants of the people.

So I look forward to going to work every morning here, but I also look forward to taking the message that I'm—the particular message that I'm dealing with at the moment to the people. Right now we're talking about

tax relief and tax reform. I've got a good partner in this effort in your Secretary.

By the way, you'll find him to be a pretty darn unusual man. [*Laughter*] He is successful. He thinks outside the box in a positive way. When given a task, he's performance oriented. He's going to expect the same of you all, but he'll be eminently fair. He will listen. He will work to build a team. That's the kind of man he is. But first things first—I got to see this first hand when I swore him in—he's got his priorities straight. He loves his family. His wife and children and grandchildren are his priority. And that's important—that's important.

We'll spend a lot of time talking about taxes right now, and by the way, I feel like we're going to have a pretty good day in the House of Representatives tomorrow. The message is slowly but surely getting out that we've got enough money coming into the Treasury to meet important obligations, but we've also got enough money to remember who paid the bills in the first place, and those are the working folks, the people who pay the taxes.

And I think we're going to have a good day tomorrow. And there will be other issues we'll be talking about: of course, the Treasury Department, and many of you work on issues relating to trade and collection; law enforcement. There's a lot of issues that take place here. But there's no bigger issue than to remember priorities in life. There's no bigger issue—the way I like to put it is this: There's no bigger issue for the President to remind the moms and dads of America, if you happen to have a child, be fortunate to have a child, your biggest priority is going to be to love your children. There's no bigger responsibility.

Some might say, "Well, that message just doesn't seem to fit in the Treasury Department." [*Laughter*] No, it fits everywhere. It fits all departments, because our jobs are to not only represent the people, but our job is to work on the collective will of the country, to uplift this country, to make sure the best is available for all who are willing to work for it. And it starts with teaching our children right from wrong.

If you find a neighbor in need, I know inside the walls here, people go out of their

way to mentor. And I want to thank you for that. If you're in your neighborhood, in your community, and you find a neighbor in need and you turn to that neighbor and say, "What can I do to help," I want to thank you for that. The greatness of America really is as a result of the collective hearts of decent, caring people.

At any rate, I love being your President. I'm honored to be on the same team that you're on. And I'm so pleased that you've got a really good man running this Department, a man who will remind you on a constant basis—a man who will remind you, and probably remind me on occasion, that it's the results that matter, that working hard is good, but that we all stand here to represent the American people.

Thank you for your hard work, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:10 p.m. outside Treasury Secretary Paul H. O'Neill's office.

## **Remarks on Departure for Fargo, North Dakota**

*March 8, 2001*

### **House Vote on Tax Cut Legislation**

In a couple hours, the House of Representatives will be voting on tax relief. I'm confident they'll do the right thing. The message is loud and clear that we've got ample revenues to fund our priorities, to pay down debt, to set aside money for a contingency, and ample revenues to send money back to the people who pay the bills, the taxpayers. I strongly believe, and I hope the House of Representatives sends the message, that the people of America are overtaxed and deserve a refund. I'm looking forward to hearing the verdict of the vote.

I'm also looking forward to continuing my trip around the country. We're off to North Dakota and South Dakota and Louisiana, and the message is the same: When you have a President and a Congress that works together to set priorities, to set the focus of the country on important matters when it comes to spending, when we stop the growth, the rapid escalation of the growth of the Federal

budget, we can meet priorities and have meaningful, real tax relief. And it's needed.

It's needed not only to provide a kick-start to our economy; it is needed because many Americans today are struggling to make ends meet. And so I'm confident the Congress will do the right thing.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:35 p.m. on the South Grounds at the White House.

### **Remarks at North Dakota State University in Fargo**

*March 8, 2001*

**The President.** Thank you very much. The air may be cold, but the reception is unbelievably warm. Thank you all for that warm reception. Governor, thank you very much. I appreciate you and Mikey meeting me at the airport. It's good to see public servants, such as your Governor, who are willing to do what they think is right. He follows the footsteps of a good friend of mine, a man who did a fine job as the Governor of North Dakota over the past years, and that's Ed Schafer. It's good to see Ed here, as well.

I don't want to jump the gun on my speech here, but I just got off the phone with the Speaker of the House. He informed me that the House of Representatives just took a major vote on—a vote on a major portion of my tax relief package, and by the margin of 230 to 198, the tax rate cut passed the House of Representatives. The American people—the American people had a victory today. The American family had a victory today. The American entrepreneur had a victory today. One House down, and now the Senate to go.

I'm here for a lot of reasons. One is to ask for your help. I wasn't sure how many folks were going to show up to hear a budget speech. It seems like a lot of people are interested in the national budget and, more particularly, your own personal budgets. And so I'm here to ask for you—if you like what you hear today—to maybe e-mail some of the good folks from the United States Senate from your State. If you like what you hear, why don't you just give them a call or write them a letter and let them know that the

people are speaking. You see, one of the important things for the President, if the truth be known, people who hold Federal office, to make sure you get out of Washington, DC, on a regular basis.

It is important to make sure you get outside the DC scene and listen to the people. I'll tell you, I love traveling our country. I'm so proud to be landing in Air Force One and getting off the airplane and driving into this hall and seeing people lining the streets, waving at the office of the President. It makes me proud to be your President. Now, they wave because they respect the office. And sometimes, at least in this State, it seems like the people like the occupant, too. It's a huge honor to be your President. It's a huge honor.

One of the things I hope the people figure out about me is that I like to bring commonsense approaches to our Government. Take budgeting. It seems like we need to have a commonsense approach on how we spend the people's money, which means it's important to set priorities. You set priorities in your family budgets; the Federal Government ought to set priorities with your money.

Let me describe some of our priorities. Educating our children is a priority. But lest you think I forgot where I came from, I want you to understand I firmly believe that the people who are best able to run the schools in North Dakota are the citizens of North Dakota. I believe in strong—mine is an administration—mine is an administration that strongly supports local control of schools. But we also understand in Washington that we need to set high standards, that every child, regardless of his or her background, can learn, that we must have the highest of high expectations, and that we must work with States and local jurisdictions to measure so that we know whether or not we're leaving any child behind in America today.

Not only today do we have good news out of the House of Representatives, but the Senate Education Committee passed our education reform package 20 to 0. We're making progress because these pieces of legislation are right for America. These aren't political documents; this is public policy that's good for American families and American children. So education is one of our priorities.

We've increased spending for education, but we've also insisted upon more flexibility so Governors and local folks can use Federal dollars to meet their specific needs. One size does not fit all when it comes to the education of American children.

Secondly, a priority is to keep the peace. In order to keep the peace, our military must be well paid and well housed and well trained. So my budget sets aside money for increasing military pay, but as importantly, it is important to have a Commander in Chief who sets a clear mission for the military. And the mission of the United States military must be well—to be well trained and well prepared to fight and win war, and therefore, prevent war from happening in the first place.

Another priority is the health care of our citizens. We've set aside money in the budget to make sure the working uninsured have got the capacity to purchase health insurance. We've set aside money in the budget to make sure we fulfill the promise to our senior citizens, by doubling the Medicare budget over the next 10 years. We've set aside money in the budget to increase the number of community health centers around America, to make sure the poor have got access to primary care. We've set our priorities, and the health care of our citizenry is a priority.

Another priority is the retirement accounts of the U.S. citizens. We've set aside all the money—all of the money aimed for Social Security will be spent on only one thing: Social Security. The days of the Congress dipping into the Social Security Trust for other programs are over. And by the way, down the road, we're going to be thinking differently about Social Security. You see, the Social Security Trust now only earns 2 percent on your money.

**Audience members.** Boo-o-o!

**The President.** Yes. I'd be booing, too. [Laughter] What we need to do is to give younger workers the option of taking some of your own money and managing it in personal savings accounts.

Ours is a budget that sets priorities. We've actually grown what they call the discretionary spending by 4 percent. That's greater than the rate of inflation. That's greater than

the increase in disposable income. That's a significant increase in expenditures.

But the debate is, it's not as big as some of the big spenders in Washington would like it to be. You see, they're used to a different attitude out of the White House. The discretionary spending at the end of last year increased by 8 percent. So we're saying we're going to meet our needs, but we're just not going to spend the people's money quite as extravagantly as has been done in the past. That's called commonsense fiscal responsibility. That's the kind of message the people in North Dakota like to hear.

I was in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the other day, taking this message around to the people. And a grandmother gave a speech—or talked a little bit, and she said, she's had a lot of children go through her house, and a lot of grandchildren go through their house, and every time she has left cookies on the table, they got eaten. [Laughter] That's kind of how I view the Federal budget. If we leave money sitting around on the table, it will get spent. And so what we need to do is set priorities and clear priorities and work to achieve those priorities.

Another priority is to pay down debt. In our budget we've submitted, we've increased discretionary spending by 4 percent, but we've paid down \$2 trillion of debt over 10 years. It's the biggest amount of debt that any nation has ever paid off that passed in history, in the history.

Increased spending, we've paid down debt, and we set aside another \$1 trillion over 10 years for contingencies. An important contingency could be making sure that we get money into the ag sector, like we've done in the past year. We certainly hope that's not the case. We hope that the ag economy recovers. We hope that we can increase demand for North Dakota products all around the world.

By the way, my attitude is this: If given a level playing field, if we have free trade, true free trade, North Dakota farmers can compete anywhere, any place, any time. I would like our farmers in America to be feeding the world. And therefore, I am going to work hard to open up markets. When it comes to international trade discussions, the American farmer is not going to be treated

like a stepchild anymore. The American farmer—the American farmer will be a primary concern. We shouldn't use food as a diplomatic weapon from this point forward. We ought to implement the Food-for-Peace Program. But if we have an emergency in the farm economy, we've set aside contingency money to do that—contingency money.

**Audience member.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** There you go. [Laughter] And guess what, though? By not overspending on the discretionary count, there's still money left over, and the fundamental debate in Washington is, what do we do with it? What do we do with your money? The fundamental question is, do we increase the size of Government?

**Audience members.** No-o-o!

**The President.** Or do we remember that the surplus is not the Government's money; it's the people's money? The other day, I noticed that the cash flow into the country—the surplus for the first 4 months was \$72 billion. That's significantly higher than the first 4 months of last year. It tells me that the American people are overtaxed. That's what that says.

When you're running surpluses that big—when you're running surpluses that big, particularly with your economy beginning to sputter, it ought to say something loud and clear, if you take a commonsense approach to Government. And that means the folks are overtaxed, and if you're overcharged for something, you ought to demand a refund. And I stepped in front of the Congress and demanded a refund on your behalf.

And so, as I mentioned—so, as I mentioned, the United States House of Representatives began the process, the long, arduous process of providing tax relief for the American people. Today they took a hold of our plan to reduce marginal rates on everybody who pays taxes, and as I mentioned, they passed that piece of legislation. I want you to hear some of the principles involved.

First of all, my administration did not believe in what they call targeted tax cuts, because I don't believe that the Federal Government ought to try to pick and choose winners in the Tax Code. Everybody who pays taxes ought to get tax relief.

So we cut all rates. We drop the top rate from 39.6 to 33 percent. And there is a lot of squawking about that, but let me explain to you the rationale. First of all, there ought to be some principles involved at the Federal level, and a principle is the Federal Government should take no more than a third of anybody's check.

But also, a principle is—a second principle is the role of Government is not to create wealth; the role of Government is to create an environment in which the entrepreneur and the small-business person and the dreamer and worker can realize his or her dreams. And the facts are—and the facts are, by far, the vast majority of small-business people in America, the backbone of our economy, pay the highest rate possible, because most small businesses are unincorporated. Most are Subchapter S—many are Subchapter S. And so by dropping the top rate from 39.6 percent to 33 percent, we're sending a clear message to America that the small-business person, the entrepreneur is the backbone of the future of this country.

Our Tax Code is unfair. It's unfair to the small-business people. It's unfair to people struggling to get into the middle class. You're on the outskirts of poverty, and you're working hard to get ahead, and you're trying to raise children—and by the way, being a single mom, raising children, is the toughest job in America. That's the toughest job in this country. And we penalize those on the outskirts of poverty trying to get ahead, trying to get into the middle class.

If you're making \$20,000 a year and you're earning money, for every addition—you're raising two kids—for every additional dollar you earn, the way they've got the earned-income tax credit and the way they've put you in the brackets, is that you pay a higher marginal rate on that dollar than someone who's successful. That's the facts in the Tax Code. For every additional dollar you earn, if you are making \$22,000 a year raising two children as a single mom, you pay nearly 50 percent on that dollar. That's not right in America. That's not what this country stands for.

And so our Tax Code not only serves as a stimulus to foreign capital and the private sector for small-business growth; ours also

makes the Tax Code fair for people struggling to get ahead. We dropped the bottom rate from 15 percent to 10 percent. We doubled the child credit from \$500 to \$1,000. We made the code fair for people working to get ahead.

The marriage penalty is unfair. And the Congress will be taking that up pretty soon to make sure the marriage penalty is fixed. But let me tell you what else is unfair. And if anybody understands it, it's the good people of this State.

The death tax is unfair. It is particularly unfair for American farmers and ranchers. That's particularly unfair. There is a lot of talk about making sure that we have green spaces and open spaces, and that's good, and that's important. But probably the best reform to make sure that happens is to eliminate the death tax so family farmers aren't forced to sell their farms before they want to.

With us today is the Wightman family. You probably—maybe you know them, maybe you don't. But they're here for a reason, because behind every tax relief plan are real Americans, Americans who will benefit. These good folks both work; they've got Melissa and Paige. Melissa's 14; Paige is 10. They right now pay \$3,700 in Federal income taxes. When our plan is fully implemented, these good folks will save \$1,900.

The reason I bring up the Wightmans is because I want America to know what our philosophy is when it comes to the people's money. Once we set priorities, once we pay down debt, once we set aside contingencies, it's important for Congress and the United States Senate to send this message to the American people: We trust you with your own money. It's your money to begin with.

Instead of figuring out new programs or new ways to get reelected, why don't we figure out ways to let the Wightmans plan for their future? Now, I know some say, "Well \$1,900 isn't a lot." Just ask them what it means. Ask the people who are paying higher energy bills what it means. Ask the people who are struggling under consumer credit card debt what it means to have their own money back. As a matter of fact, we shouldn't take it in the first place.

I'm here with a message. My message is with fiscal discipline, with planning, with leadership, our Nation can fund important priorities. We can pay down debt. We can meet emergencies or contingencies. But in order to make sure this economy gets a second wind, we better start passing money back quickly. And so not only should we have tax relief; we need to make a lot of it retroactive.

We need to get money in the pockets—so the President gets to make some suggestions, gets to make some phone calls on occasion to Members, but the best way I can garner support is to come to you and ask for your help and to say, there is nothing more powerful than the voice of the people. There is nothing that will get anybody's attention more than good, hardworking people, standing up, saying, "Let's have some common sense up in the Nation's Capitol about our money."

And it's so important to trust the American people, so important for our Government to trust people, because the people are the strength of this country. This is a fabulous land. It's the greatest country on the face of the Earth, not only—not only because of the fantastic principles—we believe in freedom of religion, freedom of press, the freedoms to achieve your dream, regardless of where you're from—but it's the greatest land on the face of the Earth because of our people. God-fearing, hardworking, neighborly citizens all across America, that's the true strength of the country.

I'll be involved a lot—part of my job is to argue for fiscal sanity in Washington. Part of my job is to represent your interests when it comes to how your money is spent. A big part of my job will be to work to keep the peace by making sure our military is strong. But a significant part of my job is to invigorate the American spirit, that spirit that says, when a neighbor sees somebody in need, "What can I do to help?" You see, the strength of America, if it is in the hearts and souls of our citizens, it must be used to make sure people aren't left behind, that the down-trodden is lifted up, that people in need get help. Oftentimes we turn to Government, but the true love and true compassion in this country begins when neighbors help neighbors in need.

So if you've got a mentoring program in the State of North Dakota that needs some help, say, "What can I do to help?" If you've got a church program that's trying to help people that are hungry, take the extra step and see if you can't help. If you know some people that are wondering whether or not somebody loves them, take a little extra time, put your arm around them, and say, "We do." I also want you all to remember that the most important job any of us will have, the most important job if you happen to be a mother or dad, isn't President or Governor, is to love your children with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind.

Now, we're a blessed nation. We can achieve anything we set our mind to. We can have sound fiscal policy. We'll work hard to keep the peace, but most of all, we can make sure this great American experience shines brightly for every citizen, everybody in this great country. People are willing to roll up their sleeves and work, because we've got a country of people who are willing to roll up their sleeves and help.

I can't tell you what an honor it is to be your President. I am so grateful—I am so grateful that so many came out to say hello.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:18 p.m. in Bison Arena. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. John Hoeven of North Dakota and his wife, Mikey.

### **Proclamation 7415—National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, 2001**

*March 8, 2001*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Last year, approximately 130,000 new cases of colorectal cancer were diagnosed in the United States. This is a startling number. Late diagnosis is one reason why colorectal cancer, cancer of the colon and rectum, is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths for Americans. The disease strikes men and women with almost equal frequency and often progresses without symptoms. Fortunately, colorectal cancer is usually curable

when discovered early, and early diagnosis is possible through regular screenings. Regular screenings are particularly important for persons age 50 or older. Regular screenings are also important for individuals considered at higher risk for the disease.

Widespread screening for colorectal cancer could save up to 30,000 lives a year, if all cases were found at an early stage. To raise awareness about the disease and to encourage regular screening, the Cancer Research Foundation of America, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, and the American Digestive Health Foundation have joined together to encourage Americans to observe March 2001 as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush**, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2001 as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. By supporting continued education about this disease and research into treatment and prevention, Americans can help stop colorectal cancer and save many lives.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:39 a.m., March 9, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 12.

### **Remarks in Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

*March 9, 2001*

Thank you all very much. I am glad to be here in South Dakota. I was telling the good Governor, the air may be a little chilly, but the people are awfully warm.

I want to thank your warm hospitality. I particularly want to thank those who were on the road, waving to us as we came in, and those who have lined up outside the hangar. It's really—it really makes me feel

great to be here. Thank you for your hospitality.

I'm so proud to be able to call your Governor my friend. He's a good man, Janklow. He's kind of hard to settle down, sometimes. [Laughter] But the thing I like about him is he married well—[laughter]—he's honest, and he loves the people—and he loves the people.

Earlier today, we toured a community health center here in Sioux Falls. And I was honored and so pleased that the minority leader in the Senate, Tom Daschle, greeted me. It's very thoughtful of him to do so. I appreciate—I appreciate the dialogs we have had. He treats me with respect; I will treat him with respect.

I'm also appreciative of the fact that we've got two United States Congressmen on the stage with me today. A very capable, strong, able man from South Dakota, John Thune. And I've noticed you've relaxed your border policy and allowed Congressman Mark Kennedy from Minnesota to come today, too. I appreciate these two men being here. It gives me a chance to personally thank them for casting an important vote on behalf of the American people yesterday, when they cast a vote to cut the taxes on the people who pay the bills. I want to thank you all.

I appreciate the mayor; I appreciate the former Senator; I appreciate my fellow citizens. I appreciate the fact that you've given me a chance to get outside of Washington—[laughter]—remember where I came from, to come to the heartland of America. It's important for all of us in the Federal Government to continue to come to the heartland, because it's the land of good heart and the land of commonsense people.

And I am here to talk about a commonsense way to budget in Washington, a commonsense approach for what to do with your money. I want you to understand, first and foremost, all the talk about the surplus. The surplus is not the Government's money. The surplus is the people's money; it's the hard-working people of America's money.

And I'm going to remind the good folks in the Nation's Capital, some of whom don't need reminding, some of whom may need to be occasionally reminded, that we work

for you. And it's your money we're talking about when it comes to setting budgets.

It's important to be fiscally sound and fiscally responsible with your money, which starts with setting priorities, clear priorities. And so I want to share some of the priorities that I've set.

First, educating our children is a important priority for our Nation. So we spend money on public education—but I always remember where I came from. I hope you don't get too nervous, Governor, because I have always believed and will always believe in local control of schools. And so, while the Government will spend money, we've got to trust you to run your schools.

We got a good vote out of the Senate Education Committee that passes power out of Washington, so the local folks can chart the path to excellence for every child. Education is a priority, but it must be a priority in the context of empowering local folks and strong accountability measures and trusting parents and always challenging failure. Because in our vision, there are no second-rate children in this great land of ours, and there are no second-rate dreams in America.

Health care is an issue, and it's a priority. I believe we ought to double the amount of patients we cover in community health centers, to make sure that the poor and those on the outskirts of poverty are able to find primary care.

I know we've got to make sure we take care of our elderly, and so we've doubled the Medicare budget in my budget. It says loud and clear to our seniors, the promises that we have made to you will be a promise we will keep. But it also requires new thinking and new leadership. We must reform Medicare, to give seniors more options, more choices, more opportunities to tailor their health care programs to meet their needs, all of which ought to include prescription drug benefits for our seniors.

A priority is to work with States on important development projects. And the Lewis and Clark Rural Water Project is a project that will be in my budget and something that we can work together on.

Our retirement systems are a priority in the budget. And so we've sent the clear message to the Congress—and it's being well-

received, by the way, by both Republicans and Democrats—that the payroll taxes, all your hard-earned taxes, aiming for Social Security, will be only spent on one thing, and that’s Social Security—that we set aside that money.

One of the biggest jobs I have is to serve as the Commander in Chief, and I do so proudly. I want to be the Commander in Chief of troops that have got high standing and high morale; people that have got a clear mission stated to them by the Commander in Chief, which is to make sure our military is properly trained, ready to fight and win war, and therefore, prevent war from happening in the first place. So a priority is to make sure our military is better paid, better housed, and better trained.

Those are priorities of ours. We grow what’s called the discretionary part of the budget by 4 percent. That’s greater than the rate of inflation. That’s a lot of money, by the way, when you’re talking in terms of billions. We grow the budget.

But if you listen to the voices of those who would rather keep your money in Washington, DC, they say we can’t meet the needs. I’m telling you, we can meet the needs with the right kind of priorities. We can meet the needs with the right kind of focus.

So we grow that budget, but the problem is, some of the folks in Washington are used to spending orgies. At the end of the last session, the discretionary spending grew at 8 percent. I mean, it’s like, “Let’s have a contest to see who can spend the most in order to get out of town.” Those days are over. We’re going to bring some fiscal sanity to the budget.

We can meet our priorities, and we can fund them. And we can also pay down debt. I know a lot of folks around America are worried about national debt, as am I. We pay down \$2 trillion of debt over the next 10 years. That’s all the debt that’s available to be retired without having to pay a premium for prepaying debt. That’s a lot of debt retirement. It will be the biggest repayment of debt in the history of the world. And so we pay down debt.

In order to make sure that the American people are comfortable with our plan, we also set aside a trillion dollars over 10 years for

contingencies, emergencies, money for the unforeseen. So people say, “What do you mean by that.” Well, I’m concerned about the agricultural sector here in our country, the agricultural economy.

I want to increase demand for South Dakota products. I believe that the South Dakota farmer and rancher is the best in the world. And if given the opportunity, they can compete with anybody in the world, so long as the opportunity is fair. So my administration will work hard to increase demand for South Dakota products.

When it comes time to negotiating trade agreements, we’re not going to leave the farmer behind. We understand the significance. But we may need some contingency money to help the farmers transition from the old ways to the market-oriented approaches for agriculture.

And speaking about agriculture, let me reiterate my commitment to value-added processing, to making sure that ethanol is an integral part of the gasoline mixes in the United States. It makes common sense to set aside money for priorities and contingencies and debt. But there is still money left over.

The people are working so hard and long hours and are overtaxed—that there’s money left over. And the fundamental debate that’s taking place in Washington, DC, is what to do with the money. That’s the fundamental debate. And I’m here to make my case: If the American people are overcharged, they deserve a refund. They deserve some money back.

It’s really a matter of who you trust. It’s a matter of trust. Once the priorities are met, once debt is repaid, once the money is set aside in case something goes wrong, it’s, who do you trust? And I want to make it clear to the people of South Dakota: I trust you, rather than the Government, to spend your money. I trust you.

I also don’t trust the Congress to pick winners and losers in the Tax Code. You’re going to hear the words, “targeted tax cuts.” That means a group of folks get to decide who is targeted in and who is targeted out. That’s not my view of Government. My attitude is, if you pay income taxes, you ought to get relief. Everybody who pays taxes ought to get relief.

And so, yesterday, the Congress did the right thing. They heard the call that if we're going to have tax relief, reduce all rates. And we have done so. We've made the code—we're trying to make the code more simple. We've dropped the bottom rate from 15 percent to 10 percent and increased the child credit from \$500 to \$1,000 per child.

And there is a reason, and the Congress must hear the reason. It's because we want the code to be more fair—that if you're living on the outskirts of poverty and you're struggling to get ahead, today's Tax Code penalizes hard-working people.

I want you all to remind folks who need to be reminded, that if you're making about \$22,000 a year and you're a single mom raising two kids—which I know and many of you know is the toughest job in America—that's the hardest work in this country. For every additional dollar under this code—under this code that some label progressive—for every additional dollar, that hard-working lady earns, she pays nearly 50 percent tax. The way the code is structured, she loses part of her earned-income tax credit. She pays the 15 percent bracket. She's paying her payroll taxes. She pays more on the margin than Wall Street bankers do. And that's not right, and that's not fair. And we're going to do something about it in the Tax Code.

We're also dropping the top rate from 39.6 percent to 33 percent. There's a lot of hollering about that. A lot of people—you know, they like the targeted tax cut, "We're going to try to pick and choose the winners." But I want you all to remember this, that an integral part of America is the small-business owner. The small-business owner not only provides many of the new jobs we create, but the entrepreneur and the small-business owner represents the best of America. It talks about the American Dream and the American experience of starting and owning your own business.

There are a lot of folks who have come to this country, whether or not America is meant for them, and they start their business, and they work hard, and they own a piece of the future. That's what America is about. And I want you to remind the skeptics and the naysayers and the doubters that many small businesses are unincorporated, many

are what they call Subchapter S, and they pay the highest marginal rate in the Tax Code. And by dropping the top rate from 39.6 to 33 percent, we provide capital infusion into the small-business sector of America. This is a plan that is good for the entrepreneur and small-business people. It makes sense to be that way.

And by the way, there is a need to make this happen quickly. We got a issue with our economy. It's beginning to sputter. It's beginning to get a little shaky. And one way to make sure that we provide a second wind to the economy is to give people their own money back. That's called economic recovery.

And so I appreciate so very much the Congress working with the White House to make the tax relief retroactive. In other words, when we pass the bill, it will be as if it went into effect on January first of this year, to get money in your pockets quicker.

I also want to thank those 10 Democrats who voted with us yesterday. People are beginning to hear from the people. People are beginning to hear. The elected Members are beginning to hear from the people. That's why I'm here. I want to remind you that you all have an incredibly positive effect. You can help a lot, and I appreciate so very much—

*[At this point, a small fire broke out in one of the spotlights hanging above the crowd.]*

**The President.** As I said, you can have a positive effect. *[Laughter]*

It's a sign from above. I'll keep an eye on it. *[Laughter]*

Let me say one thing, quickly. I am concerned about our economy. And therefore, today, in order to make sure our transportation hubs continue to flourish and we continue to fly, I'm issuing an Executive order to protect the flying public in a time when Northwest Airlines and the mechanics are having trouble resolving differences, and they need time to do so. This order that I signed today will prevent any disruption of air service for the next 60 days.

It is significant to the people living in South Dakota that I do this. Northwest is the first airline this year to reach a critical point in labor/management negotiations.

Several other negotiations involving other national carriers face deadlines within the next few weeks, and I am concerned about their impact, concerned about what it could mean to this economy. And I intend to take the necessary steps to prevent airline strikes from happening this year.

I urge the National Mediation Board to make sure that the parties work toward a solution and negotiate in good faith. It's important for our economy, but more important, it's important for the hard-working people of America to make sure air service is not disrupted.

I'm watching. And I'm winding down, but I want to do one other thing. I want to remind you that tax relief is good for families. It's good for our families. And it is going to be better for families when we do something about the marriage penalty in the Tax Code. The Tax Code is unfair to farmers and small-business people. We need to get rid of the death tax in the Tax Code. There's a lot of talk about taxes. I want to put a face on taxes. I want people to understand that tax relief is real for people.

We've got the Hagen family here. You all stand up, Scott—and their family, Tiffany and Christian and Austin and Kyler. This is a hard-working family. They're raising their three children. They now pay \$1,500 in Federal income taxes. When it's all said and done, after the Congress passes its plan and when it's all said and done, they'll end up paying zero in Federal income taxes.

Now, I know they're going to say, and you'll hear them say in some of the parlors around the country, "You know, 1,500, that's not much." Just ask the Hagens. Just ask the working families who have energy bills that are high. Ask the people—I want the skeptics to ask the question to people, what it's like to have huge consumer debt.

There's a lot of talk about debt at the national level. We need to worry about debt in the communities all around America. No, that \$1,500—\$1,500 may not mean a lot to some. It means a lot to the Hagens, and there's a principle involved. And the principle is, we trust them to spend the 1,500 the way they see fit. It's their money to begin with.

And so I'm here to thank you for your support, thank you for your friendship, and ask for your help. You're just an e-mail away from making a difference in somebody's attitude. It's the right thing to do. This is commonsense approach to your money. It's the commonsense approach. It requires some discipline. It requires reordering priorities. And the priority with your money is not to grow the Federal Government; the priority of your money is so you can grow your own families and meet your own needs and meet your own responsibilities.

And that, after all, is what's important about America, responsibility. We have a responsibility—those of us elected to office have a high responsibility—responsibilities that I will keep. But it doesn't just start in Washington, DC. It starts in neighborhoods. At the community health center today, I had the honor of meeting people who assume the responsibility of not only providing health care but of saying to a neighbor in need, "What can I do to help?" They call it the heartland because people have got good hearts in this part of the world. People care about neighbors.

We can argue about budgets, but that's not the greatness of America. The greatness of America is our people, the fact that we've got people who care about somebody. And so I urge you, become a Boy Scout or Girl Scout leader to teach a youngster right from wrong. I urge you—I urge you, don't hope that Washington fixes schools, don't hope that the Federal Government waves some magic wand to make the schools better. Get involved with your education systems here at the local level. Thank a teacher, thank a principal for their hard work.

If your church, your synagogue, or mosque, you're looking for something to do, find a program that will help mentor a child. Put your arm around somebody. It says, "We love you." America is meant for—you know, the greatness of this country lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. My job will be to argue smart budgets. My job will be to represent you when it comes to making sure you've got your money back. My job will be to keep the peace.

But my job will also be to call upon the best of America, to lift this Nation's spirits,

to set our sights high, to call upon the goodness and kindness of America, to remind the moms and dads of our country, if you're fortunate to be a mom or dad, love your child every day, love them with all your heart and all your soul.

And that's why it's such an honor to be here, an honor to be your President. I'm so optimistic, with the right focus, the right attitude, the right approach, that this great Nation can achieve anything we set our minds to.

Thanks for coming out today. God bless. God bless America. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:03 a.m. in the National Guard Hangar at Joe Foss Field. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. William J. Janklow of South Dakota; Mayor Gary Hanson of Sioux Falls; and former Senator Larry Pressler.

**Executive Order—Establishing an Emergency Board To Investigate a Dispute Between Northwest Airlines, Inc., and Its Employees Represented by the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association**

March 9, 2001

A dispute exists between Northwest Airlines, Inc., and its employees represented by the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association.

The dispute has not heretofore been adjusted under the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, as amended (45 U.S.C. 151–188) (the “Act”).

In the judgment of the National Mediation Board, this dispute threatens substantially to interrupt interstate commerce to a degree that would deprive sections of the country of essential transportation service.

**Now, Therefore,** by the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 10 and 201 of the Act (45 U.S.C. 160 and 181), it is hereby ordered as follows:

**Section 1. Establishment of Emergency Board (“Board”).** There is established, effective March 12, 2001, a Board of three members to be appointed by the President to investigate this dispute. No member shall be pecuniarily or otherwise interested in any organization of airline employees or any air car-

rier. The Board shall perform its functions subject to the availability of funds.

**Sec. 2. Report.** The Board shall report to the President with respect to this dispute within 30 days of its creation.

**Sec. 3. Maintaining Conditions.** As provided by section 10 of the Act, from the date of the creation of the Board and for 30 days after the Board has submitted its report to the President, no change in the conditions out of which the dispute arose shall be made by the parties to the controversy, except by agreement of the parties.

**Sec. 4. Record Maintenance.** The records and files of the Board are records of the Office of the President and upon the Board's termination shall be maintained in the physical custody of the National Mediation Board.

**Sec. 5. Expiration.** The Board shall terminate upon the submission of the report provided for in sections 2 and 3 of this order.

George W. Bush

The White House,  
March 9, 2001.

NOTE: At the time of publication, this Executive order had not yet been received by the Office of the Federal Register for assignment of a number. An original was not available for verification for the content of this Executive order.

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**Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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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.

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**March 4**

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled from Camp David, MD, to Hampton, VA.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush, traveled to Newport News, VA, and later, they returned to Washington, DC.

**March 5**

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Vice President Cheney wishing him well following an angioplasty procedure at George Washington University Hospital.

The President announced his intention to nominate William S. Farish to be Ambassador to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kenneth Dam to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to nominate Roger Walton Ferguson, Jr., to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The White House announced that the President announced that 203 educators will receive the annual Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for 2000.

**March 6**

In the morning, the President traveled to Chicago, IL, where he toured Chicago Mercantile Exchange in the afternoon.

Later in the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ralph F. Boyd, Jr., to be Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division.

The President announced his intention to nominate John D. Graham to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget.

The President announced his intention to nominate Patrick Pizzella to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Administration and Management.

The President announced his intention to nominate John D. Negroponte to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations with the rank of Ambassador.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Goteborg, Sweden, to attend the European Union-U.S. summit in June.

**March 7**

The President announced his intention to nominate Pete Aldridge to be Under Sec-

retary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert Gordon Card to be Under Secretary of Energy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kristine Ann Iverson to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Bobby P. Jindal to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donna McLean to be Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Budget and Programs and Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Transportation.

The White House announced that the President welcomed the formation of Israel's new government and extended his congratulations to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who will come to the White House for a working visit on March 20.

**March 8**

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Fargo, ND, and in the evening, he traveled to Sioux Falls, SD.

The President announced his intention to nominate Peter R. Fisher to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance.

The President announced his intention to nominate J. Steven Griles to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

The President announced his intention to nominate Bill Hansen to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sean B. O'Hollaren to be Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Government Affairs.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Brussels, Belgium, in June.

**March 9**

In the morning, the President traveled to Fayetteville, LA, and in the afternoon, he traveled to Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ruth A. Davis to be Director General and Chairman of the Board of the Foreign Service.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alphonso R. Jackson to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

The President announced his intention to nominate James J. Jochum to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for the Export Administration.

The President announced the appointment of Richard R. Kasher, Helen Mercer Witt, and Robert Oberndoerfer Harris as members of the Presidential Emergency Board No. 235. Ms. Witt will serve as Chairman.

The White House announced that the President will meet with Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori of Japan at the White House for a working visit on March 19.

The White House announced that the President will meet with Vice Premier Qian Qichen of China at the White House on March 22.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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

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#### ***Submitted March 8***

Kenneth W. Dam,  
of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, vice Stuart E. Eizenstat, resigned.

Michael P. Jackson,  
of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, vice Mortimer L. Downey, resigned.

Richard Lee Armitage,  
of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of State, vice Strobe Talbott.

John Robert Bolton,  
of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, vice John David Holum, resigned.

Grant S. Green, Jr.,  
of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Management), vice Bonnie R. Cohen.

Marc Isaiah Grossman,  
of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs), vice Thomas R. Pickering.

William Howard Taft IV,  
of Virginia, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, vice David Andrews.

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### **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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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.

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#### ***Released March 5***

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's telephone call to the Vice President

Announcement: President Honors Nation's Leading Math and Science Teachers

#### ***Released March 6***

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing the President's upcoming visit to Goteborg, Sweden, to attend the biannual European Union-U.S. summit

#### ***Released March 7***

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Transcript of remarks to the press pool by Secretary of State Colin L. Powell

Statement by the Press Secretary: Israeli Prime Minister To Visit Washington

#### ***Released March 8***

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's tax plan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President's will visit NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, during his upcoming visit to Europe

Fact Sheet: President's Tax Relief Plan Gives Greatest Relief to Lowest Income Taxpayers

***Released March 9***

Statement by the Press Secretary: U.S. Visit by Chinese Vice Premier

Statement by the Press Secretary: Japanese Prime Minister To Visit Washington

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.