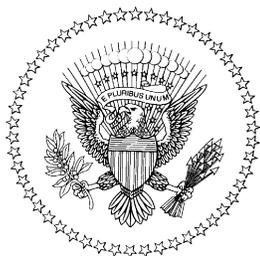


Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



Monday, May 14, 2001
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Editor's Note: The President was at Camp David, MD, on May 11, 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.

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Week Ending Friday, May 11, 2001

The President's Radio Address

May 5, 2001

Good morning. Today I want to offer a special greeting to everyone celebrating Cinco de Mayo. This day marks the proud moment when Mexican soldiers threw back an invading army at the Battle of Puebla. One hundred and thirty-nine years later Cinco de Mayo pays tribute to the strong and independent spirit of the Mexican people.

We celebrated a little early at the White House this year, on *quatro de Mayo*, with a fiesta on the South Lawn, with the mariachi music, folkloric dancing, and an ample supply of Mexican food. For a little while, it was just like being in Texas again.

Growing up in Texas gave me many things I'm thankful for, and one of them is an appreciation of the Hispanic culture. In Texas, it's in the air you breath. Hispanic life, Hispanic culture, and Hispanic values are inseparable from the life of our State and have been for many generations. The history of Mexican-American relations has had its troubled moments, but today our peoples enrich each other in trade and culture and family ties.

To affirm that friendship, Laura and I have invited Mexican President Vicente Fox to be the guest of honor at the very first state dinner of my administration. President Fox is a fine man, a man of powerful ideals and a great vision for his country. We have already met three times this year. I consider him a friend. We are committed to working together in common purpose for the good of both countries. Whether the issue is free trade or energy production, environmental protection or the control of illegal drugs, our interests are often the same.

In the United States, I'm happy to say, we're putting old fears and quarrels behind us. We know that we must protect the integrity of our border, yet we understand how that border can be viewed from the other side, as the gateway to better wages and a

better life. I've often said that family values don't stop at the Rio Grande. The best way to have a stable border is better opportunity in both our nations, opportunity built by trade and education and freedom.

And when immigrants come to America legally, their culture and contribution must be treated with respect. They have an equal place in the American story, a story written in many hands and told in many languages. This welcoming spirit is the heritage of the immigrant Nation and the commitment of my administration.

Cinco de Mayo is a day for special pride and remembrance for all of Mexico. And for all Americans, it is a reminder of the heritage we share with our neighbor to the south and the great promise of the future.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 9 a.m. on May 4 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on May 5. The address was also recorded in Spanish. Both transcripts were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 4 but were embargoed for release until the broadcast.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Amir Hamad Khalifa of Bahrain

May 7, 2001

President Bush. It's my honor to welcome His Highness to America. Bahrain is a close friend of our country. It housed our 5th Fleet—strong allies. He has made a big difference in his own country, been on the leading edge of reform. He believes in human rights and believes in the full participation of the people of his land. And we're really grateful for your leadership. It's such an honor to welcome you here.

Amir Khalifa. Thank you. I am pleased to have this honor today to meet with the President, who has been promising from the day he wanted to be in this job. And I'm

sure America will do a great thing and move forward in all fields, for the stability and security, mainly, of my region, the Gulf region.

We have an old relationship that's lasted for more than a hundred-and-something years. And I think we will keep that one. And that's why I'm here, to consult on matters of security, on matters of trade, on matters of development. And I thank the President for his invitation, his kind invitation.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. in the Colonnade at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the Council of the Americas Conference

May 7, 2001

Thank you, Mr. Rhodes, I'm honored; and thank you for having me, sir. It's an honor to be here with Senator Chuck Hagel. He's a man who's got a good vision of the world. He's also a fine United States Senator, I might add. Thank you for being here, Senator. It's good to see Ambassadors from nations in our hemisphere. Mr. Rockefeller, thank you very much for your support of trade in our hemisphere.

It's an honor to be here with the best pick I could have possibly made to be the Secretary of State, and that's Colin Powell. He's doing a really good job of making the case for our country in a strong and humble way. When it's all said and done, his tenure is going to mean the world is more peaceful and more prosperous.

I appreciate so very much, Peter Romero from the State Department, who has been working side by side with those of us at the White House. I appreciate Thomas McNamara and Bill Pryce, as well. And thank you all for coming, and thank you for letting me talk about a subject near and dear to my heart.

The Council of the Americas was formed 36 years ago, in a different America. And it's certainly a different world. In 1965 international trade and investment mattered much less to the U.S. economy. We traded mostly with the countries of Europe. Inter-

estingly enough, at that point in time, Mexico was our fifth largest trading partner. Today, she's the second largest trading partner, behind Canada.

In 1965 so few Americans traced their ancestry to Latin America that the census didn't even bother to tabulate them. Today, some 35 million Americans are of Hispanic origin. In 1965 military and authoritarian regimes ruled all too many of the countries of the Americas. Today, with one sad, solitary exception, every nation in our hemisphere has an elected government.

Our recent summit in Quebec symbolized the new reality in our hemisphere, a unity of shared values, shared culture, and shared trade. And together, we made good progress at that summit, the beginnings of a really strong and fruitful relationship all throughout the hemisphere.

In 1980s and the early nineties, our Nation negotiated many important trade agreements: the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks. Since then, efforts have stalled as U.S. trade promotion authority was allowed to lapse. The inactivity of the American Government has had real costs for the American people. The United States has few better friends, for example, than the Republic of Chile, but the fact is, Canadian goods sold in Chile pay a lower tariff than American goods do, because the United States has left its trade talks with Chile unfinished.

Free trade agreements are being negotiated all over the world, and we're not a party to them. And this has got to change.

Americans are the world's preeminent inventor of new technology and the world's biggest foreign investor. We're the world's most efficient food producer and the world's leading source of information and entertainment. For our farmers and our inventors, for our artists and for ordinary savers open trade pays off in the form of higher incomes and higher returns.

We benefit from open trade in less tangible ways, as well. Americans want to live on a cleaner planet; we want labor standards

upheld and children protected from exploitation. Americans want human rights and individual freedom to advance. Open trade advances those American values, those universal values.

By failing to make the case for trade, we've allowed a new kind of protectionism to appear in this country. It talks of workers, while it opposes a major source of new jobs. It talks of the environment, while opposing the wealth-creating policies that will pay for clean air and water in developing nations. It talks of the disadvantaged, even as it offers ideas that would keep many of the poor in poverty.

Open trade is not just an economic opportunity; it is a moral imperative. Trade creates jobs for the unemployed. When we negotiate for open markets, we are providing new hope for the world's poor. And when we promote open trade, we are promoting political freedom. Societies that open to commerce across their borders will open to democracy within their borders, not always immediately and not always smoothly, but in good time.

Look at our friends, Mexico, and the political reforms there. Look at Taiwan. Look at South Korea. And some day soon, I hope that an American President will end that list by adding, look at China. I believe in open trade with China, because I believe that freedom can triumph in China.

Later this week, I will send the outline of my trade agenda to Congress. My administration wants to work with Congress and to listen to what the Members have to say. We've been especially impressed by the fresh new thinking of many Members about how to advance environmental and worker protection concerns in ways that open trade rather than closing trade. They recognize that one-size-fits-all policies can't succeed. They know we need a toolbox equipped to match diverse tools with diverse problems, and I agree.

And one tool I must have is renewed U.S. trade promotion authority. I urge the Congress, restore our Nation's authority to negotiate trade agreements. And I will use that authority to build freedom in the world, progress in our hemisphere, and enduring prosperity in the United States.

We must pass the free trade agreement with Jordan, one of our best friends in the

Middle East. We need to complete our free trade agreement with Singapore. We must proceed with other bilateral and regional agreements. And the time has come for a new global trade round.

I'm optimistic about trade. I'm also realistic about trade. I will enforce our laws against unfair trade practices. And I want to consider how we can improve our program for trade adjustment assistance when it comes up for reauthorization next year. But we must understand that the transition costs of open trade are dwarfed by open trade's benefits that are measured not only in dollars and cents but in human freedom, human dignity, human rights, and human progress.

We must make those benefits a reality for all the people of our hemisphere. And that's the task ahead. I accept it with enthusiasm. And I'm counting on the Council's help to bring sanity to the United States Congress.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:33 p.m. at the State Department. In his remarks, he referred to William R. Rhodes, member, David Rockefeller, honorary chair, and Thomas E. McNamara, president, board of directors, and William T. Pryce, vice president, Washington operations, Council of the Americas; and Peter F. Romero, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs.

Proclamation 7434—Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, 2001

May 7, 2001

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

As we move into the 21st century, the United States continues to greatly benefit from the contributions of its diverse citizenry. Among those who have influenced our country, Asian/Pacific Americans merit special recognition. Their achievements have greatly enriched our quality of life and have helped to determine the course of our Nation's future.

Many immigrants of Asian heritage came to the United States in the nineteenth century to work in the agricultural and transportation industries. Laboring under very difficult conditions, they helped construct the western half of the first transcontinental railroad. Their hard work was invaluable in linking together the East and West coasts, thus vastly expanding economic growth and development across the country. Over time, other immigrants journeyed to America from East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Asian Subcontinent. Today, Asian/Pacific Americans are one of the fastest growing segments of our population, having increased in number from fewer than 1.5 million in 1970 to approximately 10.5 million in 2000.

Asian/Pacific Americans bring to our society a rich cultural heritage representing many languages, ethnicities, and religious traditions. Whether in government, business, science, technology, or the arts, Asian/Pacific Americans have added immeasurably to the prosperity and vitality of our society. As family members, citizens, and involved members of the community, they reinforce the values and ideals that are essential to the continued well-being of our Nation.

Diversity represents one of our greatest strengths, and we must strive to ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to reach their full potential. By recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans, our Nation celebrates the importance of inclusion in building a brighter future for all our citizens.

To honor the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans, the Congress, by Public Law 102-450, has designated the month of May each year as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage 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 and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 2001, as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. I call upon the people of the United States to learn more about the contributions and history of Asian/Pacific Americans and to celebrate the role they have played in our national story.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of May, 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., May 9, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on May 10.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on
Burden-sharing in the North Atlantic
Treaty Organization**

May 7, 2001

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to section 3(2)(B) of the Senate's resolution of April 30, 1998, providing its advice and consent to ratification of the Protocols on the Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949, I hereby transmit to you the report concerning NATO membership, burden-sharing in the Alliance, and other matters.

The report is comprised of two sections that provide the required information to the extent that such information is available. An unclassified section covering common NATO budgets, national defense budgets, costs incurred to date in connection with the membership of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, and the status of discussions concerning NATO membership for Partnership for Peace countries. A separate, confidential section covers NATO members' capabilities to deploy and sustain combat forces and the adequacy of European defense budgets to meet the requirements of NATO force goals and capabilities initiatives.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; John W. Warner, chairman, Senate Committee on Armed Services; Ted Stevens, chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Henry J.

Hyde, chairman, House Committee on International Relations; Bob Stump, chairman, House Committee on Armed Services; and C.W. Bill Young, chairman, House Committee on Appropriations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 8.

Remarks Honoring the Small Business Person of the Year

May 8, 2001

Thank you very much. Be seated, please. Welcome to the people's house for the Small Business Person of the Year Award ceremony. It's an honor for me to be here. Can't wait to find out who won. *[Laughter]*

John, thank you very much for hosting this event. It's good to see Members of the United States Senate here—Senator Bond and Senator Shelby, strong advocates of small-business growth in America. Welcome, Senators.

It's good to have Don Manzullo here, as well as Frank Mascara. Thank you all for coming. Congressman, thank you for being here, as well. It's an honor to have Members of the United States Congress who care deeply about making sure that the environment for small-business growth is strong and positive in America. These Members understand what I know: The role of Government is not to create wealth; the role of Government is to create an environment in which people who have a dream of owning their own business are able to do so if they've got the good idea and are willing to work hard for it.

We've had some pretty negative news recently about employment figures. But one thing Congress must always remember is that to make sure that the employment figures improve, we must remember that small businesses create most of the new jobs in America, and therefore, we've got to put forth good policy that encourages the entrepreneurial spirit to flourish. And I can't think of better policy than to reduce all the marginal rates of income tax.

We're getting a budget about done. And then we're going to have to figure out the details of the tax policy, and you can help. You can help by reminding Members of the United States Congress, both in the Senate

and the House—you don't have to remind these, because they already know what I'm about to say—but that all rates need to be cut.

We don't need any targeted tax cuts. That means Congress gets to pick. Some people get tax cuts; some people don't. That's not fair; that's not the American way. If you pay taxes, you ought to get relief. And the Congress needs to hear this, as well, that many small businesses in America are unincorporated. They are sole proprietorships. They pay rates on the personal scale. And by cutting that top rate from 39.6 to 33 percent, we encourage entrepreneurial growth in America; we encourage small-business formation.

We're saying that we understand the power of small business in America, the importance to the future of this country, and by letting small-business owners keep more of their own money, it's good for America. Congress needs to hear that message, that this tax cut is good for small-business growth. And you can help.

I found out voices make a difference up here in Washington, particularly when they're calling on the phone saying, "Let's get something good done on the tax cut. Let's make sure you understand growth—a pro-growth environment."

And there's another place you can help, too. And that's on getting rid of one part of the Tax Code that's incredibly unfair to small-business people, and that's the death tax. The death tax is unfair.

People need to hear from you. They need to hear it's unfair to tax a person's assets twice, once when they're building the asset up and then when you try to pass it on to your heirs. People work in the small-business sector—you know this as well as I do—to build something up to leave it to maybe a son or a daughter. Nothing more prideful for people than to work their life and to be able to say to a son or a daughter, "Here's the business. You go run it now. You take it to new heights."

But that's not the way our—that's not the way this Tax Code works. It says, when you pass on, your heirs are going to have to pay an incredibly high tax. It's especially onerous—this death tax is especially onerous on

small-business entrepreneurs in America, and we need to get rid of it. And we need to get rid of it right now.

One thing I know, and you know, that a small business is built on values. And good, strong values are what distinguish all four of the finalists who are here today. Cindy McEntee* is an active member of her community, a selfless volunteer, a devoted employer. I was struck about the story about one—a longtime employee had to be airlifted for emergency hospital care in the middle of the night, one of her fellow employees. She woke up the next morning to drive 120 miles, from Newport to Portland, Oregon, to make sure that that person was getting the care she needed. That's the sign of a good boss. That's the sign of a good small-business owner. I bet morale is high in her company.

Thornton Stanley is a deacon in his church, a good dad, a loyal alumnus of Alabama A&M, a fine family man. He built his business on quality, on what he calls "playing it straight." It's a pretty good motto.

Frank Sarris shows what drive and determination and frugality can build. He's a dreamer who worked hard to achieve his dream.

Brindley Pieters is a man who took risk, never lost hope.

All four of these fine Americans represent the best of small businesses. I can't wait to find out who won. [*Laughter*] I want to thank you for what you all do for America. I want to thank you for being good employers. I want to thank you for expanding the job base. I also want to thank you for being good stewards in your community. You recognize what I know, that our communities are only as strong as the willingness of people to put time and effort and love into our neighborhoods. Small-business people do that every day.

Thank you all for coming to the White House, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:37 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to John D. Whitmore, Jr., Acting Administrator, Small Business Administration; Cindy M. McEntee, owner and president, Mo's Enterprises, Inc., Newport, OR; Brindley B. Pieters,

president, Brindley Pieters & Associates, Inc., Altamonte Springs, FL; Frank Sarris, president, Sarris Candies, Inc., Canonsburg, PA; and Thornton Stanley, president, Stanley Construction Co., Inc., Huntsville, AL.

Statement on Domestic Preparedness Against Weapons of Mass Destruction

May 8, 2001

Protecting America's homeland and citizens from the threat of weapons of mass destruction is one of our Nation's important national security challenges. Today, more nations possess chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons than ever before. Still others seek to join them. Most troubling of all, the list of these countries includes some of the world's least responsible states—states for whom terror and blackmail are a way of life. Some non-state terrorist groups have also demonstrated an interest in acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Against this backdrop, it is clear that the threat of chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons being used against the United States—while not immediate—is very real. That is why our Nation actively seeks to deny chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons to those seeking to acquire them. That is why, together with our allies, we seek to deter anyone who would contemplate their use. And that is also why we must ensure that our Nation is prepared to defend against the harm they can inflict.

Should our efforts to reduce the threat to our country from weapons of mass destruction be less than fully successful, prudence dictates that the United States be fully prepared to deal effectively with the consequences of such a weapon being used here on our soil.

Today, numerous Federal departments and agencies have programs to deal with the consequences of a potential use of a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapon in the United States. Many of these Federal programs offer training, planning, and assistance to State and local governments. But to maximize their effectiveness, these efforts need to be seamlessly integrated, harmonious, and comprehensive.

* White House correction.

Therefore, I have asked Vice President Cheney to oversee the development of a coordinated national effort so that we may do the very best possible job of protecting our people from catastrophic harm. I have also asked Joe Allbaugh, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to create an Office of National Preparedness. This Office will be responsible for implementing the results of those parts of the national effort overseen by Vice President Cheney that deal with consequence management. Specifically, it will coordinate all Federal programs dealing with weapons of mass destruction consequence management within the Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, Justice, and Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other Federal agencies. The Office of National Preparedness will work closely with State and local governments to ensure their planning, training, and equipment needs are addressed. FEMA will also work closely with the Department of Justice, in its lead role for crisis management, to ensure that all facets of our response to the threat from weapons of mass destruction are coordinated and cohesive. I will periodically chair a meeting of the National Security Council to review these efforts.

No governmental responsibility is more fundamental than protecting the physical safety of our Nation and its citizens. In today's world, this obligation includes protection against the use of weapons of mass destruction. I look forward to working closely with Congress so that together we can meet this challenge.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Peacekeeping Operations

May 8, 2001

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to transmit herewith the 2000 Annual Report to the Congress on Peacekeeping required by section 4 of the United Nations Participation Act (22 U.S.C. 287b).

United Nations and other peacekeeping operations conducted under the previous Administration helped us protect U.S. interests before they were directly threatened and helped ensure that other nations shared with

us the risks and costs of maintaining international stability.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that, under the right circumstances, peacekeeping remains a viable option for dealing with international conflicts.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; John W. Warner, chairman, Senate Committee on Armed Services; Ted Stevens, chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Henry J. Hyde, chairman, House Committee on International Relations; Bob Stump, chairman, House Committee on Armed Services; and C.W. Bill Young, chairman, House Committee on Appropriations.

Remarks at the Electronic Industries Alliance Dinner

May 8, 2001

Thank you all. Thank you very much. Dave, thank you very much. I thought for a minute he was going to bring up the OUtexas score, but—[laughter]—he's a diplomat at heart. I appreciate your leadership, and I appreciate your friendship, and I want to thank you for inviting me here to the Electronic Industry Alliance dinner.

I want to thank the chairman, Cliff Smith, for his hospitality as well. I see the Ambassador from our great friend, the nation of Israel, here. Ambassador Ivry, good to see you, sir. Thank you very much for being here. I wasn't exactly sure why you were going to be here until I realized that this banquet is going to honor Felix Zandman for his contribution. Mr. Zandman, congratulations, sir.

It must be a pretty big deal to get the Ambassador to come to a black tie dinner like this. I know Members of the Congress are here: Congressmen Barr, Hutchinson, Issa; Sheila Jackson Lee from my old hometown of Houston, Texas; and Congressman Nick Smith. It's good to see the Members of Congress who are here, as well.

I'm honored to speak here, and I want to thank you for giving me a chance. First, it gives me a chance to tell you that Laura and I are doing great. I love my job. It's hard

to describe the honor I feel every morning walking into the Oval Office. I'm confident that my last day in office will be just like my first—that Oval Office just inspires an awesome sense of responsibility. And I accept it.

On my way out, Laura, the First Lady, said, "Where are you going?" I said, "Well, I'm going to go speak to a banquet of high-tech entrepreneurs and people who are making the economy grow." She said, "Whatever you do, don't try to be charming, witty, or debonair." [Laughter] "Just be yourself." [Laughter] She sends her best. [Laughter]

It is my honor to be with innovators and visionaries, the folks that really epitomize what America is all about. Ours is a land of people who dream big and are willing to work hard to achieve the dreams, which means that Government has got a unique role. And the role of Government is not to create wealth; the role of our Government is to create an environment in which the entrepreneur can flourish, in which minds can expand, in which technologies can reach new frontiers.

And so, tonight, I want to talk about three areas where Government can help. And the first comes with understanding the role of taxation in our society. I remember campaigning throughout our great land and talking about the need to cut taxes. And there were a lot of blank stares for quite a while. I suspect some thought that I was just saying that we ought to have tax relief because it might have sounded good.

But I campaigned for tax relief because I thought it was right for America. And I'm pleased to report that we're making good progress. I want to thank both Republicans and Democrats for setting out a budget that understands the projected surplus is not the Government's money. The surplus is the people's money, and we need to share some of that surplus with the people who pay the bills.

It's been an interesting debate. But fortunately, the debate understands the role of the entrepreneur in our society. The budget should be passed here this week, and then the respective committees will begin deciding how to cut the taxes.

My strong suggestion is that we focus first on cutting all marginal rates; that the idea of Congress trying to pick and choose winners and losers in the Tax Code is not fair, and it's not right. We need to reduce every rate on every taxpayer in America, including the top rate.

I'm confident we'll be able to work together to make the code more fair. Our Tax Code is unfair for people who live on the outskirts of poverty. The example I like to use is this one: If you're a single mother in America—by the way, she works the toughest job in America, raising children by herself—and if you're making \$22,000 a year, for every additional dollar this hard-working woman makes, she pays a higher marginal rate on that dollar than someone who is successful in America. And folks, that's not right.

The American experience says to us that the harder you work, the more easy your life ought to be. And therefore, to reduce the high marginal rates on people trying to get ahead, we need to drop the bottom rate from 15 percent to 10 percent and increase the child credit from \$500 to \$1,000 per child. The code will be more fair. It's as if we will eliminate a toll booth that sits right in the road—in the middle of the road to the middle class.

But I want Congress to also understand that it's not only important to drop the bottom rate; it's important to drop the top rate, as well. By dropping the top rate, we encourage growth, capital formation, and the entrepreneurial spirit.

It's important for Congress to understand that many small businesses in our society are sole proprietorships or Subchapter S's. They don't pay the corporate tax rate; they pay high personal rates. And when you drop the top rate, we're sending a strong signal that says we want the small business to flourish. We want the small business to become the big business.

No, tax rates need to be cut. We can afford tax cuts, and the way our economy is behaving today, we can't afford not to have tax cuts. And it's time for the Congress to act.

We need to ban Internet access taxes. We need to understand how powerful the Internet can be to commerce and growth. We need to have a permanent R&D tax credit

in our system. You see, it's important to create certainty. It's important for planners and corporate executives to understand the rules and that the rules won't change. It's important for Congress to understand that tax relief provides consumer confidence. Long-term, steady tax policy is necessary to encourage deployment of capital throughout our society.

I believe we're going to have good tax relief, but I'd like for you to continue to work with us. You're only an e-mail away or a call away. It's important. Now is the time to act.

It's also important for this Nation to develop an energy policy. For too long, we have had no energy policy. And like you, I'm deeply concerned about consumer prices. They're going up. I'm concerned about rolling blackouts in California. I'm concerned what that could mean to entrepreneurial growth and to the high-tech industry.

It is so important for our Nation to work on conservation. And I believe there are new technologies coming aboard that will encourage conservation, that will make it easier for all of us, consumer and business alike, to conserve precious energy. But we can't conserve our way to energy independence, folks. We need a policy that encourages exploration and expansion of the infrastructure, necessary not only to find natural gas that's fueling many of the new plants being brought online but the pipelines necessary to carry that natural gas to places where they'll be used. We need more electricity wires carrying product across the country. It is time for an administration to step up and develop an energy policy that's good for the long-term economic growth of this country. And that's exactly what this administration is going to do.

There is concern about our environment in our society, and there should be. Mine is an administration that wants to foster good, commonsense conservation policy. But I believe strongly, with the technological advances we have made in our country, that we can not only find new product, but we can do so in a way that is sensitive to the environmental concerns of many in America.

And finally, an area that will help create an environment that fosters growth and wealth and expands opportunity to anybody

who's fortunate enough to be an American is trade. It is important for our Nation to understand the benefits of open markets around the world. It's important for those who not only create jobs but those who work, to realize that a confident nation that opens up markets is one that will create not only opportunities at home but opportunities abroad.

I've seen the benefits of open trade. As the Governor of the State of Texas, of course, I was deeply concerned about our policies to our neighbor to the south, Mexico. I always felt like Mexico was our friend, and we wanted our friend to be strong and vibrant and successful. We wanted our neighborhood to have opportunity for all.

There are some in our country who want to build walls between the United States and other nations such as Mexico. But those who build walls aren't confident about America and our potential and our ability to compete. Those who build walls don't realize what a wall would do in our own neighborhood. It's time to tear down walls not only in our hemisphere but around the world. It's time to promote open markets. I strongly believe open markets will lead to better lives for people.

I've been questioned about my policy toward China. China is a great emerging nation. I strongly support trade with China. I not only do so because I know it's good for our entrepreneurs, our high-tech folks, our farmers and ranchers, but for those of us—and I know we all share the same thing in America—who adhere to the ideals of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to—freedom of press.

Open markets eventually will cause folks to demand more freedoms—when they get a taste of the marketplace—inside countries that restrict freedom. When they get that sense of freedom of demand and freedom to produce, they will eventually demand from their governments the other freedoms that we take for granted. Open trade is good for the promotion of freedom around the world.

And so I ask Congress to give the President something other Presidents have had in the past, and that's trade promotion authority, so an administration can negotiate with confidence free trade agreements, not only in

the hemisphere but trade agreements with countries like Jordan and Singapore.

There's a new protectionist sentiment in America that we need to resist. And sometimes it's couched in words like "the environment" or "labor agreements." But I want to remind the skeptics that as we spread wealth around the world, it is more likely that a worker will have better conditions where he or she works. And it is impossible for poor nations to achieve environmental successes. By encouraging wealth in developing nations, it will help those nations improve their own environmental policy. We should resist protectionism, and we should fight those who want to wall off America from the benefits of free trade.

And so I ask for your help. As we get trade promotion authority moving through the Congress, I hope you remind Members of the Congress and the Senate the good benefits that open trade can mean not only to the entrepreneur but to the working people in our country and with those with whom we trade.

And along those lines, during the campaign I promised to lead an effort to reform our export control system so that it safeguards genuine military technology while letting American companies sell items that are already widely available. And we're making good progress. I want to thank Dave for his help.

I've been working with my friend Senator Phil Gramm from Texas to reform the Export Administrative Act, to strengthen both national security and our high-tech industry. In March, I'm pleased to report, the Senate Banking Committee passed a revised EAA, which my administration strongly supports. It's now time to pass it for the House, so I can sign it into law.

I've got a bigger job than just passing laws, and it's one to really change the tone in Washington. I think that's an important mission for my administration to say to the good folks in this town that, whether you're Republican or Democrat, we need to treat each other with respect. It is so important that all of us work together to develop a culture of respect, so that when people look at our Nation's Capital, they like what they see. And I think we're making some progress. There's

still the occasional shrill voice that is trying to tear somebody down. There are those who still believe in zero-sum politics—if so-and-so gets his bill, so-and-so loses. That's not how I view my job, nor how I view good public policy.

I try to separate politics from policy. We've had plenty of politics; it's now time for good public policy. It's time to understand that we'll be judged based upon what we do, not how we talk—thank goodness. *[Laughter]*

I believe when it's all said and done, we will have developed a culture of accomplishment here in Washington, as well. I think people are beginning to realize that this President will share credit, that this President isn't trying to figure out how to one-up somebody, that my focus is on the people, the people of this great land.

Which leads me to my final hope, and that is, we need to develop a culture of responsibility in America, a responsibility that spreads all throughout this great land, where people understand that if you're a mom or a dad, if you're fortunate enough to be a parent, that your main responsibility is to love your children with all your heart and all your soul. That's your most important job.

It's important, in a period of personal responsibility, to understand that you must love a neighbor like you would like to be loved yourself. One of the most important initiatives we're working with the Congress on is a faith-based, community-based initiative that recognizes the limitations of government and also recognizes that there are fantastic programs all across America where somebody has said, "What can I do to help? What can I do to help change somebody's life?"

One of the most important initiatives we're working with Congress on is to provide grant monies to encourage mentoring to children whose parents may be in prison, so that some soul who lives in the greatest land on the face of the Earth will understand there's hope and a future, will understand when somebody puts his arm around them and says, "I love you. I care for you."

Government can't make people love one another. But Government can encourage those who do love, and Government can also set an example. Government can uphold the high responsibilities of the offices to which

we have been elected. It's an important task for America, that when they look at their Government they're proud of what they see. I think we're making progress. I certainly hope so. It is a charge I intend to keep.

Thank you for having me.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:20 p.m. in the Constitution Ballroom at the Grand Hyatt Washington at a dinner for leaders of Government and industry. In his remarks, he referred to Dave McCurdy, president, and Cliff Smith, chairman, Electronic Industries Alliance; David Ivry, Israeli Ambassador to the United States; and Felix Zandman, chairman and chief executive officer, Vishay Intertechnology, Inc.

Proclamation 7435—Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week, 2001

May 8, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each day, law enforcement officers encounter grave risk to protect the rights and freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Their commitment and sacrifice make our streets safer, our neighbor hoods stronger, and our families more secure. Police Week provides an opportunity to recognize the selfless dedication of the brave men and women who devote their lives to protecting and serving our communities.

This Nation owes a considerable debt of gratitude to all law enforcement officers who protect the lives and property of their fellow Americans. From patrolling our highways, to investigating crime, to protecting victims' rights, these committed professionals make a valuable difference in our communities. We look to them to uphold the principle that no one is beyond the protection or reach of the law. These men and women, through their patriotic service and dedicated effort, have earned our gratitude and respect.

We pause during Police Week, and in particular on Peace Officers Memorial Day, to honor those officers who made the ultimate sacrifice while performing their sworn duty. I urge all Americans to use this occasion to

pay tribute to these fallen heroes by recalling their devotion, celebrating their lives, and honoring their service.

Tragically, making America safer often requires great sacrifice. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 150 law enforcement officers lost their lives in the line of duty in 2000. Although we can never repay the debt we owe these valiant officers and their families, we pay tribute to their memory by committing ourselves to being law-abiding citizens, working to lower crime in our communities, and investing time and love in our Nation's young people.

By a joint resolution approved October 1, 1962 (76 Stat. 676), the Congress has authorized and requested the President to designate May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and the week in which it falls as "Police Week," and, by Public Law 103-322 (36 U.S.C. 136), has directed that the flag be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day.

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 May 15, 2001, as Peace Officers Memorial Day and May 13 through May 19, 2001, as Police Week. I call upon all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also call upon Governors of the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as well as appropriate officials of all units of government, to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day. I also encourage all Americans to display the flag at half-staff from their homes on that day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of May, 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., May 10, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 9, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on May 11.

Proclamation 7436—National Salvation Army Week, 2001

May 8, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Since its founding in Great Britain in 1865, the Salvation Army has provided humanitarian relief and spiritual guidance to people throughout the world. Its members continue its compassionate tradition of helping wherever there is hunger, disease, destitution, and spiritual need.

Through countless acts of service, members of the Salvation Army actively assist those who suffer in body and spirit. Their victories result in shelter for the homeless, food for the hungry, and self-sufficiency for the disabled. In more than 100 countries, speaking more than 140 languages, the Salvation Army follows Christ's call to "love your neighbor as yourself."

Members of the Salvation Army demonstrate this love in many ways. Perhaps the best-known services they provide involve meeting the needs of the homeless. However, they also offer assistance to countless other individuals seeking help. Those addicted to drugs or alcohol find a vast network of rehabilitation programs; children born into poverty discover camps and educational opportunities; and those who are ill receive care.

I commend the Salvation Army officers, soldiers, and those who support its mission for their continued dedication to helping meet the physical and spiritual needs of people across the Nation. During this week, I encourage Americans to express their appreciation for the Salvation Army's good works and to follow their example of serving a cause greater than themselves.

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 May 14 through May 20, 2001, as National Salvation Army Week. I call upon all the people of the United States to honor the Salvation Army

during that week for its faithful ministry in the United States for over 120 years.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of May, 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., May 10, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 9, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on May 11.

Remarks Announcing Nominations for the Federal Judiciary

May 9, 2001

Thank you all very much. Attorney General, it's good to see you, sir, and happy birthday. Today is his birthday. Also, Judge Al Gonzales is here. Judge Gonzales is a great friend of mine who, fortunately, is my lawyer and is a part of the process, judicial selection process. Thank you for being here, Judge.

I'm also honored to welcome Members of the United States Senate who are here to welcome the nominees to Washington: of course, Senator Orrin Hatch, chairman of the Judiciary; as well as Senator Patrick Leahy, ranking member on the Judiciary. It's good to see you men. Thank you both for coming. John Warner, George Allen, George Voinovich, and last but not least, Senator Strom Thurmond, welcome. Thank you all for coming.

I'm pleased to welcome my judicial nominees to the White House. And I'm pleased to welcome their family and friends, as well.

This is a proud moment for all of you, and it's a proud moment for me, as well. A President has few greater responsibilities than that of nominating men and women to the courts of the United States. A Federal judge holds a position of great influence and respect and can hold it for a lifetime.

When a President chooses a judge, he is placing in human hands the authority and majesty of the law. He owes it to the Constitution and to the country to choose with care. I have done so.

With me this afternoon are my first 11 judicial nominees, individuals of experience and character. Four of them serve as United States district judges, all four confirmed by unanimous votes. Two others are sitting judges on State supreme courts. Four have served as law clerks in the Supreme Court of the United States. One has served here as an Associate Counsel to the President. One already holds the position for which I nominate him, by recess appointment of President Clinton.

These men and women have followed different paths to this nomination. They come from diverse backgrounds and will bring a wide range of experience to the bench. All have sterling credentials and have met high standards of legal training, temperament, and judgment. As a group, they command broad, bipartisan support among those who know them and who have served with them. I submit their names to the Senate with full confidence that they will satisfy any test of judicial merit.

These first nominations are also an opportunity to outline the standards by which I will choose all Federal judges. The American people expect judges of the highest caliber, and my nominees will meet that test. A judge, by the most basic measure, has an obligation shared by the President and Members of Congress. All of us are constitutional officers, sworn to serve within the limits of our Constitution and laws. When we observe those limits, we exercise our rightful power. When we exceed those limits, we abuse our powers.

Every judge I appoint will be a person who clearly understands the role of a judge is to interpret the law, not to legislate from the bench. To paraphrase the third occupant of this house, James Madison, the courts exist to exercise not the will of men but the judgment of law. My judicial nominees will know the difference. Understanding this will make them more effective in the defense of rights guaranteed under the Constitution, the enforcement of our laws, and more effective in assuming that justice is done to the guilty and for the innocent.

My standard is informed by the oath that each judge will take: to administer justice without respect to persons and to do equal

right to poor and to the rich. A good judge exercises these powers with discernment, courage, and humility. These are commitments, not just to philosophy but of character.

My nominees today and in the years to come will be notable for their distinction and accomplishments. And all will be exceptional for their humanity and their integrity. With today's 11 nominees, we continue a constitutional process that involves all three branches of Government.

For many weeks now, we have sought and received advice from Senators of both parties. I now submit these nominations in good faith, trusting that good faith will also be extended by the United States Senate. Over the years, we have seen how the confirmation process can be turned to other ends. We have seen political battles played out in committee hearings, battles that have little to do with the merits of the person sitting before the committee. This is not good for the Senate, for our courts, or for the country.

There are today over a hundred vacancies on the Federal courts, causing backlogs, frustration, and delay of justice. I urge Senators of both parties to rise above the bitterness of the past, to provide a fair hearing and a prompt vote to every nominee. That should be the case for no matter who lives in this house and no matter who controls the Senate.

I ask for the return of civility and dignity to the confirmation process. And with this distinguished group of nominees awaiting confirmation, there is no better opportunity than right now. I congratulate all of you on your service past and for your service to come.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:43 p.m. in the East Room at the White House.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on the Budget
May 9, 2001

Today's bipartisan budget vote in the House is a victory for fairness and the American people. I commend Republicans and

Democrats for joining together to pass a budget framework that will return money to the taxpayers and provide reasonable spending increases. The economy continues to show troubling signs, and we must take decisive steps, like this vote today, to ensure sound fiscal policy. The American people can take heart that tax relief is one important step closer to reality.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Education Reform Legislation

May 9, 2001

I commend members of the House Education and Workforce Committee for taking the first step toward reforming America's education system and making sure no child is left behind. This legislation includes monumental reforms that promote real accountability, annual testing, and funding flexibility. Parents need to know if their children are making progress, and this legislation meets that priority. I am also pleased that this bill gives unprecedented freedom and flexibility to States and local school districts to determine the best way to spend their Federal education dollars.

I urge Members of Congress to continue building upon our efforts to expand parental options. I will support amendments on the House floor that increase parental options and involvement.

I applaud Chairman John Boehner and Ranking Minority Member George Miller for working in a bipartisan way to move this important piece of legislation forward.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

May 9, 2001

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with

respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979.

George W. Bush

The White House,
May 9, 2001.

Remarks Announcing the Nomination of John P. Walters To Be Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy

May 10, 2001

The President. Thank you all so very much for being here. It's an honor to see so many Members of the United States Congress who are here. Thank you so very much for coming—and members from both political parties, members who are dedicated to joining with an administration which is dedicated to reducing drug abuse around America. Thank you for being here.

I'm pleased that members of my Cabinet have joined us: the Attorney General of the United States, John Ashcroft; the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson. Thank you all for being here. Mr. Surgeon General, thank you for being here, as well, sir. We're honored to have you here.

Also with us is John J. DiIulio, who is the Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. John is on the leading edge of encouraging faith-based programs to become energized to help people who need help. And John, thank you so much for being here, as well.

I'm honored to be joined on stage by five Americans—well, six Americans—five Americans who won't speak—[*laughter*—which is saying something for the first American I'm going to introduce, William J. Bennett—[*laughter*—he was our Nation's first drug czar, former Secretary of Education, a fearless, fearless fighter against drug abuse—as well, as Joe A. Califano, who has a center on addiction and substance abuse at Columbia University, former Secretary of Health and Education and Welfare under President Jimmy Carter, as well, like Mr. Bennett, a fearless advocate for those of us who are

dedicated to reducing drug abuse. Thank you both for being here.

And we have three members from the community—antidrug community who have joined us. Arthur R. Dean is the chairman and CEO of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. Thank you so much for coming. I appreciate you being here. Jessica Hulsey is a member of the Drug-Free Communities Advisory Commission. Thank you, Jessica—and Henry Lozano, Californians for Drug-free Youth, a member of the DFCAC, a graduate from Teen Challenge.

I'm pleased to announce that as of today the Federal Government is waging an all-out effort to reduce illegal drug use in America. And I'm proud to nominate John P. Walters as my Director of National Drug Control Policy, where he will serve as a valuable member of my Cabinet.

Mr. Walters has had a distinguished career in Government. He served as the chief of staff to Bill Bennett and later served as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. John will bring tremendous skill, knowledge, and good judgment to this job. He's an articulate advocate, an able administrator, and a man of deep and reasoned convictions. He has repeatedly been called on to provide guidance to the United States Congress. John cares passionately about this issue, and he is the right person to lead America's antidrug efforts.

Our effort rests on the firm belief that by focusing more of our Nation's attention, energy, resources, real progress will be made. From the early 1980s until the early 1990s, drug use amongst high school seniors was reduced every year. We had made tremendous strides in cutting drug use. This cannot be said today. We must do and we will do a better job.

Fortunately today, we know more about what works in prevention and education, treatment and law enforcement. We will put this knowledge to use. But above all, our efforts rest on an unwavering commitment to stop drug use. Acceptance of drug use is simply not an option for this administration.

Illegal drugs impose a staggering cost of more than \$100 billion every year, principally from lost productivity. Yet this dollar figure

does not capture the human tragedy of drug use: lost lives, educational and job opportunities unmet, families torn apart, health care costs, school dropout rates, and more. Drug use harms people of every economic class, but drug use is doing the most damage to the poor.

John Jacob, former president of the National Urban League, has said that drugs are destroying more children and more families than poverty ever did. John Walters and I believe the only humane and compassionate response to drug use is a moral refusal to accept it. We emphatically disagree with those who favor drug legalization.

Drug legalization would be a social catastrophe. Drug use and addiction would soar. Hospitals would be filled with many more drug emergency cases. Child abuse would increase. The cost of treatment and social welfare would rise. There would be more drug-related accidents at work and on the road. And legalizing drugs would completely undermine the message that drug use is wrong.

A successful antidrug effort depends on a thoughtful and integrated approach. Mr. Walters understands this as well as anybody in America. During his career, he's worked to improve the effectiveness of drug education and prevention programs. He played a key role in ensuring a record commitment of resources to drug treatment and research in a previous administration. He helped ensure that the Federal Government did its part in source countries, on our borders, and on our streets.

My administration will continue to work with nations to eradicate drugs at their source and enforce our borders to stop the flow of drugs into America. This will make working in close cooperation with Mexico a priority. It will make having strong relations in our hemisphere a priority, a priority which I will keep.

However, the most effective way to reduce the supply of drugs in America is to reduce the demand for drugs in America. Therefore, this administration will focus unprecedented attention on the demand side of this problem. We recognize that the most important work to reduce drug use is done in America's living rooms and classrooms, in churches and

synagogues and mosques, in the workplace, and in our neighborhoods.

Families, schools, communities, and faith-based organizations shape the character of young people. They teach children right from wrong, respect for law, respect for others, and respect for themselves. They're indispensable, and my administration stands ready to assist them in every possible way.

Joe Califano is the president of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse and a man whose research has helped shape my thinking. Joe has said that teens of parents who eat, talk, pray, and play together are not likely to be lured into the world of drugs. A child who reaches age 21 without using illegal drugs is virtually certain never to do so. And children cite parents as the number one reason they don't use drugs. And so we'll energize the parents movement by creating a Parent Drug Corps, which will provide needed support to educate and train parents in effective drug prevention.

We must increase funding for drug-free communities programs and for the drug-free workplace program. And within 30 days, Professor John DiIulio will compile a complete inventory of existing Federal antidrug partnerships with local faith-based and community groups and work with John Walters to strengthen those efforts.

Despite every effort, however, some individuals will become addicted to drugs. There are around 5 million hardcore users of illegal drugs in America today. And while they represent one-third of the drug users, they consume two-thirds of all drugs. It is estimated that more than half of them are not receiving any treatment.

I am, therefore, asking Secretary Tommy Thompson to conduct a State-by-State inventory of treatment needs and capacity, and report back within 120 days on how to most effectively close the treatment gap in this country. In order to close that treatment gap, we'll provide \$1.6 billion over the next 5 years.

We want to advance our understanding of drug abuse and addiction, so we're planning to significantly increase funding for the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. We also recognize the benefits of co-

erced abstinence, and so we will support drug courts and drug testing for prisoners, probationers, and parolees.

We know that inmates receiving drug treatment are 73 percent less likely to be re-arrested and 44 percent less likely to use drugs than those who receive no treatment at all. I'm, therefore, asking the Attorney General, John Ashcroft, to come up with a comprehensive plan within 120 days to ensure our Federal prisons are drug-free, to expand drug testing for probationers and parolees, and to strengthen our system of drug courts around the Nation.

We must reduce drug use for one great moral reason: Over time, drugs rob men, women, and children of their dignity and of their character. Illegal drugs are the enemies of innocence and ambition and hope. They undermine people's commitment to their family and to their fellow citizens. My administration will send a clear and consistent message that drug use is dangerous and drug use is wrong.

John Walters will lead that effort with firm resolve and a caring heart. He will do an exceptional job. I am proud to submit his name to the United States Senate, and I look forward to working with Members of the House and the Senate from both political parties to reduce drug use in America.

I'm honored to welcome so many people who devote their lives to the well-being of others to the Rose Garden here in the White House. I want to God bless—thank you for your work and ask God's blessings on your work and this great Nation of ours.

It's my honor to welcome John Walters.

[At this point, Director-designate Walters made brief remarks.]

The President. Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:57 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Director-designate Walters.

**Remarks to the Vienna-Madison
Community Anti-Drug Coalition
in Vienna, Virginia**

May 10, 2001

Thank you so very much for that gracious welcome. It's my honor to be here with my newly designated Director of the National Drug Policy, and that is John Walters.

I appreciate so very much General Arthur Dean for being here, as well. He's the chairman and CEO of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. I want to thank Clarence Jones, who is the coordinator of Safe and Drug-Free Youth Section of the Fairfax County Public School System. Thank you very much. And Diane Eckert, program specialist in Safe and Drug-Free Youth Section of the Fairfax County Schools, thank you, Diane. And thank you for the tour.

It's also a great pleasure to be here with the Congressman from this district, Tom Davis. Thank you very much for being here, Tom. And the mayor of Vienna, Virginia—thank you, Madam Mayor, for coming. I appreciate you being here. I know we have members of the House of Delegates here from the State of Virginia. Thank you for coming. The Speaker is here. I appreciate you for being here, Mr. Speaker.

It is my honor to tour this center. And the reason I'm here is because today I talked about a goal of my administration and a goal of this Nation, and that is to wage a war on drug abuse in America, a serious effort. In my speech, when I introduced John to the Nation, I talked about the need for us to continue serious efforts of interdiction, to work with neighbors to the south of ourselves, to make sure that we interrupt the supply of drugs coming into America.

One of the things I'm proud of is my close relations with Vicente Fox, the President of Mexico. The President of Mexico has pledged to work with us to do a good job of stopping the flow of drugs across our borders. We're very much involved in the—Columbia, in the Andes, trying to eradicate coca leaves before they're manufactured into cocaine. So we'll continue to do the best we can to interdict supplies.

But the best ways to affect supply is to reduce demand for drugs. The best way to

impact supply of drugs coming into America is to convince our fellow citizens not to use drugs in the first place.

This is a national problem, but our administration believes the solution is found at the local level, through community coalitions, where people of good faith and good heart come together; people from all walks of life and the communities around America come together with the dedicated proposition that through hard work and love, we can convince kids not to use drugs.

So we've come to this center because it is a part of a coalition that makes a big difference in the lives of people this part of Virginia. There are people who have said, "What can we do to make our community a better place?" And they formed a coalition; 22 groups have come together. And it's making a big difference. It's a tangible difference.

One of the things Diane and I talked about is, we want to be a results-oriented world. We want to be measurable. And this coalition is successful because it's not afraid to say, "Measure us. Let us prove to you that we do a good job." And a good job is being done. And for that, all of us say thanks to the folks who are involved in these efforts.

And the Federal Government can help. And so one of the announcements I made today was that over the next 5 years we'll double the amount of money for drug-free communities programs around America. It is necessary funding. It's a part of achieving the goal of reducing the demand for drugs in America.

Again, it also recognizes that the most effective policy really does start at the local level. The most local of all levels, by the way, is in somebody's home, where a mom or dad works with the children to help them make the right decisions, or in schools, where schools are willing to teach character education, willing to not only teach a child to read and write but also the difference between right and wrong. It comes when role models stand up and clearly say, "Drugs will destroy your life. Don't use drugs."

There's another initiative that we announced today that I think makes a lot of sense, and that is we want to set up a Parent Drug Corps all around America. It is the use of Federal dollars to help local folks develop

curriculum to teach parents in all communities across America how to deal with reduction of demand of drugs—what to say, how to say it, kind of a best practices effort. And we're determined to get the Congress to fund this new concept about involving parents more actively in the communities in which we live.

And finally, the third initiative I talked about today was how do we make sure that people get treatment in America. We've got to make sure that those who are hooked on drugs are treated, and that's why I'm asking Congress to spend 1.6 billion additional dollars for treatment over the next 5 years. It is so important. I think an amazing statistic is that a third of the drug users consume two-thirds of the drugs. We've got people that know no other life than drugs. And a compassionate society is one that does something about drug—people who are addicted. And we're going to do so.

I believe strongly that many of the best drug programs are those founded upon faith, that they exist because people understand that if you change a person's heart, you can change their life. If a person's heart becomes changed, they themselves begin to make the right, necessary choices, make the tough choice of kicking the drug habit. A Government should never fund religion, but Government should welcome and energize faith-based programs which exist to help people kick drugs.

Ours is a strategy based upon common sense. But in order to make it work, it's going to be a strategy that is tenacious, that recognizes that this isn't about giving speeches. It is about an administration that's willing to follow through and to stay focused. And my pledge to the American people is because I understand what a drug-free America can mean for our future and for the hopes and concerns of citizens from all walks of life, that this isn't a one-day event for the Bush administration. This is a high priority. The idea of substantially reducing drug abuse in America is a priority of mine today, and it will be a priority of mine so long as I'm fortunate enough to hold this high office.

I have picked a good man in John Walters to lead this effort. He's got a lot of experience. He understands the need to reduce de-

mand. He understands the intricacies of interdicting supplies that come into the country. He has been in this office before, working with Bill Bennett. But like me, he is tenacious and focused. Like me, he is dedicated to the single proposition of reducing demand in America. And I look forward to working with John. John's going to find that with this President, when called upon, I'll act. If he says this is a program that needs a boost or a thank, I'll be there, giving a boost or giving the appropriate thanks.

We're here to give thanks to the folks at this program and in this center. So on behalf of the American people and the people of this community, thank you for your hard work, for your love and for your compassion, for your deep concerns about the youth of this country. And thank you all for being here and giving me such a warm welcome.

God bless, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:30 p.m. in the Vienna Community Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor M. Jane Seeman of Vienna; Speaker Vance Wilkins, Jr., Virginia House of Delegates; and author William J. Bennett, former Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy. The Vienna-Madison Community Coalition is one of 22 Community Anti-Drug Coalition of America chapters in the Fairfax County Public Schools—Safe and Drug-Free Youth Section.

Remarks Honoring the NCAA Hockey Champion Boston College Eagles

May 10, 2001

Well, thank you all very much. Welcome to the White House. My honor to host you. I know some of the players up here are from Canada. I hope you feel just as welcome in this house as your U.S. counterparts do.

I want to thank Father Leahy for being here. I want to thank the athletic director. Of course, I want to thank Coach York. It's an honor for me to host the mighty Eagles. One of the great benefits of having my job is, I do get to welcome championship teams from all across our country. As a Governor of Texas, the truth of the matter is I didn't get to welcome a lot of hockey teams. [Laughter]

I'm also pleased to see some folks who sometimes think I—on thin ice. [Laughter] I think they know who I'm talking about.

Senator Kerry, thank you for being here, sir. I appreciate Representatives Frank and Markey. I appreciate Representative Capuano. I'm glad you all are here. One of the things that happens sometimes in politics is, we disagree. But I think we're learning to disagree in an agreeable way. So you're welcome to the people's house.

I also want to welcome my friend Ambassador Paul Cellucci. I made a good pick when I picked Paul to become the Ambassador to Canada. He, of course, takes credit for the fact that the BC Eagles won the national championship, since he was the Governor at the time.

Also before I turn to the coach, want to remind folks that my sister is a BC Eagle, and proudly so. She's probably wondering why I didn't invite her here today. [Laughter]

This is a great place to honor champs. It's also a great place to play sports. We've got a basketball court here. There's a bowling alley. There is a swimming pool. Recently, there was a baseball yard for a tee-ball game. I asked them why there's no hockey rink, and the truth of the matter is, Coach, there's no place to park the Zamboni. [Laughter]

But I do want to congratulate you all for a great victory and a great championship. I know your win over North Dakota was a tough win. But I want to quote what one of your players said—Mark McLennan. Where are you, Mark? He said this about the team, "There were no egos on this team. We had great individual players, but nothing was bigger than the team." And that's why you're the champs. I want to congratulate you all for being champs.

I want to remind you that life is more than just being champs on the ice. It's important to be a champ off the ice, as well. I'm sure there's some little kid up there in the Boston area wondering how a champ behaves off the ice. And you have the responsibility as a champion to set the right example.

Coach, welcome to the White House. Congratulations for being here.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:10 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Rev. William P. Leahy, S.J., presi-

dent, Jeremiah F. York, hockey coach, and Eugene B. DeFilippo, athletic director, Boston College.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting an Outline of the 2001 Legislative Agenda for International Trade

May 10, 2001

Dear _____:

I am pleased to provide you with an outline of my 2001 legislative agenda for international trade. I look forward to working closely with you to enact it this year.

The trade agenda reflects my strong commitment to open markets around the world for the benefit of American workers, farmers, and businesses. I also am committed to open markets to provide lower prices and greater choices for U.S. consumers and industries. Open trade fuels the engine of economic growth that creates new jobs and new income in the United States and around the world.

We have no time to waste in reasserting America's leadership on trade. The President has not had trade negotiating authority since it expired in 1994. We can no longer afford to sit still while our trading partners move ahead without us.

For that reason, I have placed the enactment of U.S. Trade Promotion Authority at the top of my trade legislative agenda. U.S. Trade Promotion Authority tells the world that the President and the Congress are united at the negotiating table in seeking to strike the best possible deals for our country. I am committed to working with the Congress, on a bipartisan basis, to rebuild the consensus needed to allow America to reassert its leadership in the trade arena. I hope the enclosed framework for U.S. Trade Promotion Authority will help us redouble our efforts to secure the benefits of expanded trade for the American people.

I hope you also will join me in moving the other important components of my trade legislative agenda to enactment this session as well.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Richard A. Gephardt, House minority leader; Trent Lott, Senate majority leader; Thomas A. Daschle, Senate minority leader; Richard G. Lugar, chairman, and Tom Harkin, ranking member, Senate Committee on Agriculture; Charles E. Grassley, chairman, and Max Baucus, ranking member, Senate Committee on Finance; Orrin G. Hatch, chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Larry Combest, chairman, and Charles W. Stenholm, ranking member, House Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Philip M. Crane, chairman, and Sander M. Levin, ranking member, House Subcommittee on Trade; and William M. Thomas, chairman, and Charles B. Rangel, ranking member, House Committee on Ways and Means.

Proclamation 7437—Mother’s Day, 2001

May 9, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

No matter what direction life takes us, a mother’s love and guidance are a tremendous blessing that help us to grow up as stable, responsible, and caring individuals. As nurturers, teachers, and protectors, mothers’ unconditional affection helps their children to blossom into mature adults. In partnership with fathers, mothers play a critical role in building healthy families.

Anna M. Jarvis is credited with influencing the Congress in 1914 to establish an official Mother’s Day as a tribute to her beloved mother and to all mothers. She conceived of the day as a time when children could formally demonstrate respect for their mothers and reinforce family bonds.

Mothers who teach us right from wrong and to love our neighbors merit our deepest gratitude and appreciation. Beyond their more traditional role in rearing children, many mothers also face responsibilities outside the home as members of the workforce. At the same time, they may be caring not only for their biological or adopted children but also for stepchildren or foster children.

Many American families are now headed solely by women, and these women shoulder enormous responsibilities. For the good of their families and our Nation, we must strive to provide support and assistance to those mothers, such as, opportunities for training and employment; early childhood education for their young ones; and safe, affordable, and high-quality childcare. But fathers must also remain committed and involved in the lives of their children. By fulfilling their financial and nurturing responsibilities, fathers help ensure the well-being of their children and ease the burden on those women who carry the primary responsibility of caring for their families.

Whatever their circumstances, mothers demonstrate daily how their devotion, strength, and wisdom make all the difference in the lives of their children. To honor mothers, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 8, 1914 (38 Stat. 770), has designated the second Sunday in May each year as “Mother’s Day” and requested the President to call for its appropriate observance.

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 May 13, 2001, as Mother’s Day. I encourage all Americans to honor the importance of mothers and to celebrate how their love and devotion are crucial to the well-being of children, families, and our society.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of May, 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., May 10, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 11, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on May 11.

**Remarks Following Discussions With
President Olusegun Obasanjo of
Nigeria and United Nations
Secretary-General Kofi Annan**

May 11, 2001

***Global Fund To Fight HIV/AIDS,
Malaria, and Tuberculosis***

President Bush. It is my honor to welcome our friend, the President of Nigeria, to the Rose Garden. Mr. President, welcome to Washington, the Rose Garden. And of course, Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Secretary-General, thank you for coming.

As well, we are joined by two members of my Cabinet: Secretary of State Powell, Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson. I want to thank them both for being here. Scott Evertz, who is the Director of the National AIDS Policy Office is with us. Scott, thank you for being here. And of course, Condoleezza Rice, the National Security Adviser.

I am looking forward to meeting with the President on a range of issues that are important to our nations. This morning, we've spoken about another matter that involves countless lives. Together, we've been discussing a strategy to halt the spread of AIDS and other infectious diseases across the African continent and across the world.

The devastation across the globe left by AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, the sheer number of those infected and dying is almost beyond comprehension. Suffering on the African continent has been especially great. AIDS alone has left at least 11 million orphans in sub-Saharan Africa. In several African countries, as many as half of today's 15-year-olds could die of AIDS. In a part of the world where so many have suffered from war and want and famine, these latest tribulations are the cruelest of fates.

We have the power to help. The United States is committed to working with other nations to reduce suffering and to spare lives, and working together is the key. Only through sustained and focused international cooperation can we address problems so grave and suffering so great.

My guests today have been doing their part and more, and I thank them for their leader-

ship. President Obasanjo last month led the nations of Africa in drafting the Abuja declaration which lays out crucial guidelines for the international effort we all envision. Secretary-General Annan, too, has made this issue an urgent priority. He has been an eloquent voice in rallying the resources and conviction needed in this cause. When he visited the White House in March, we talked about the AIDS pandemic. We agreed on the goal of creating a global fund to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. The G-8 has been discussing the potential fund.

Our high-level task force chaired by Secretaries Powell and Thompson has developed a proposal that we have shared with U.N. officials, developing nations, and our G-8 partners. We will need ideas from all sources. We must all show leadership and all share responsibility.

For our part, I am today committing the United States of America to support a new worldwide fund with a founding contribution of \$200 million. This is in addition to the billions we spend on research and to the \$760 million we're spending this year to help the international effort to fight AIDS. This \$200 million will go exclusively to a global fund, with more to follow as we learn where our support can be most effective.

Based on this morning's meetings I believe a consensus is forming on the basic elements that must shape the global fund and its use. First, we agree on the need for partnerships across borders and among both the public and private sectors. We must call upon the compassion, energy, and generosity of people everywhere. This means that not only governments can help but also private corporations, foundations, faith-based groups, and nongovernmental organizations, as well.

Second, we agree on an integrated approach that emphasizes prevention and training of medical personnel as well as treatment and care. Prevention is indispensable to any strategy of controlling a pandemic such as we now face.

Third, we must concentrate our efforts on programs that work, proven best practices. Whenever the global fund supports any health program, we must know that it meets certain essential criteria. We must know that the money is well spent, victims are well

cared for, and local populations are well served.

That leads to the fourth criterion, namely that all proposals must be reviewed for effectiveness by medical and public health experts. Addressing a plague of this magnitude requires scientific accountability to ensure results.

And finally, we understand the importance of innovation in creating lifesaving medicines that combat diseases. That's why we believe the fund must respect intellectual property rights, as an incentive for vital research and development.

This morning we have made a good beginning. I expect the upcoming U.N. Special Session and this summer's G-8 summit in Italy to turn these ideas into reality. This is one of those moments that reminds us all in public service why we're here. It challenges us to act wisely and act together and to act quickly. Across the world at this moment, there are people in true desperation, and we must help.

It is now my honor to bring to the podium, the President of Nigeria. Mr. President.

President Obasanjo. Mr. President, Secretary-General of the U.N. I am particularly grateful to you, President Bush, for making this ceremony to coincide with my visit to you here at the White House in Washington, DC, on your very kind invitation.

When African leaders gathered in Abuja, 2 weeks ago, to indicate their unflinching commitment to fight the scourge of HIV/AIDS and related diseases, the joint message of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Health was brought to us as a message of hope from the United States of America. Today, Mr. President, you have begun to concretize that hope for Africa and particularly for millions of Africans infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

We are still far from the \$7 billion to \$8 billion annually that experts reckon will be needed to make impression on the ravaging effects of this dreadful scourge. But with this beginning, and just the beginning as you have kindly emphasized, for the U.S., all nations, governments, foundations, private individuals, and private sector and, indeed, all human kind who are stakeholders in the health of humanity are challenged and called

upon to make contributions to the global trust fund for HIV/AIDS and related diseases.

Mr. President, I thank you, on behalf of all AIDS sufferers in the world, but particularly on behalf of all AIDS sufferers in Africa, for launching the global fight against HIV/AIDS pandemic.

President Bush. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you very much. Mr. Secretary-General.

Secretary-General Amman. President Bush, President Obasanjo. I wish to thank you, President Bush, for committing yourself today to placing the United States at the forefront of the global fight against HIV/AIDS. It is a visionary decision that reflects your Nation's natural leadership in the United Nations, as well as your recognition of the threat posed by this global catastrophe.

To defeat this epidemic that haunts humanity and to give hope to the millions infected with the virus, we need a response that matches the challenge. We should now build on the remarkable progress over the last year in galvanizing global awareness of the threat of HIV/AIDS.

I believe we can all agree on five key objectives for our response: First, to ensure that people everywhere, particularly young people, know what to do to avoid infection; second, to stop perhaps the most tragic form of HIV transmission, from mother to child; third, to provide treatment for all those infected; fourth, to redouble the search for vaccine as well as cure; and fifth, to care for all those whose lives have been devastated by AIDS, particularly the orphans, and there are an estimated 13 million of them worldwide today, and their numbers are growing.

As we declare global war on AIDS, we will need a war chest to fight it. We need to mobilize an additional \$7 million to \$10 million a year to fight this disease worldwide. The global AIDS and health fund that I have called for as part of this total effort would be open to the nations, as you heard from the two Presidents, from governments, civil society, private sector, foundations, and individuals—all hands on deck. And the resources provided must be over and above what is being spent today on the disease and on development assistance to poor countries.

This founding contribution by the U.S. with the promise to do more will encourage or energize others to act. Africa, of course, is the continent that is most profoundly affected by the spread of HIV/AIDS, and the continent most in need of hope for a better future.

The peoples and the leaders of the continent are rising to the challenge, as President Obasanjo showed most recently by hosting the Abuja AIDS Summit. However, we must not forget that other parts of the world, from the Caribbean to Asia to eastern Europe, are also confronting the spread of this virus and need urgent assistance.

Mr. President, it is my hope that your commitment today will set an example for other leaders. When we meet at the General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS on the 25th of June in New York City, there will be a strong support for the global AIDS and health fund. As that happens, I believe today will be remembered as the day we began to turn the tide.

Thank you very much.

President Bush. It has been my honor to host this very important announcement. It's also my honor to recognize two Members of the United States Congress who are going to work with this administration to make sure that our commitment becomes reality: Senator Frist and Senator Leahy. We're so thrilled you're here. We appreciate your vision, and we appreciate your leadership.

Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:10 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Remarks Following Discussions With President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria

May 11, 2001

President Bush. We just concluded a series of discussions, and a good lunch, with the delegation from Nigeria. The President and I also had some private time to visit about issues of mutual concern. I am—we discussed issues such as trade, the environment.

Obviously, we discussed health issues that relate to the continent of Africa. We are very

supportive of the President's initiatives to provide peacekeepers in troubled countries on the African continent.

As many Americans may know—that we are in the process of helping provide technical assistance to Nigerian troops so that they are better able to keep those peace missions. We talked about the program. We've completed two phases of the training. We're in the process of completing the third phase of an agreed-upon training program.

The short of it is that Nigeria is a friend of America, and the President is a friend of mine. It has been my honor to welcome him here. I look forward to working with him in the future.

Mr. President.

President Obasanjo. Thank you very much, sir. I want to take this opportunity to thank President Bush for the invitation to visit the United States of America at this particular time and to be able to establish our relationship and, at the same time, be able to cover the important areas, ground—of important areas of bilateral relations of areas of concern in our subregion of west Africa, areas of concern in Africa, particularly areas of—that are ravaged by war and conflict, such as Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, and so on.

And what we are doing in these areas, we briefed the President. And of course, we have the support of the Government of the United States in our peacekeeping and conflict resolution efforts in Africa.

We discussed other issues that are of importance to us. We discussed the MAP, the Millennium African Plan, which initially was originated by President Thabo Mbeki, President Bouteflika, and myself, and which now has been extended to take on Egypt—President Mubarak, and President Wade of Senegal.

We also look at issues that have been on the table before and that we are working together on. For instance, how do we prepare our troops for these increasing peacekeeping roles in Africa, and the systems that we have got in the past from the U.S. Government, for which we are very grateful and which we believe will continue, to really make our troops to be able to perform adequately in peacekeeping roles?

We, of course, reiterated the friendship and the cordiality between Nigeria and the United States. And of course, I am happy to be able to make a friend of President Bush, just as you heard President Bush had made a friend of me. I now can feel that if there is any need to call on President Bush, he knows what I look like. [*Laughter*] I am not a no-person to him. He knows how I smile. He may even be feeling how I look on telephone. [*Laughter*]

And that is one important thing, that we made contact. We established a relationship, and we are friends.

Thank you very much.

President Bush. Mr. President, thank you very much. It's an honor for you to be here.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:01 p.m. at the South Portico at the White House. President Obasanjo referred to President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa; President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria; President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt; and President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal.

The President's News Conference

May 11, 2001

The President. Good afternoon. First, let me begin by talking about how pleased I am that a budget has been agreed upon. And it's now time for the Congress to act quickly. It's time for the Congress to pass meaningful, real tax reform, and I urge them to do so before Memorial Day.

Tax relief will be good for our economy, but tax relief is also a very important way to help deal with high energy prices. And so the Congress needs to act. I'm confident if they have the will to do so, that they can, that they can get this done before Memorial Day.

And secondly, I believe strongly that the Attorney General made the right decision today. Any time we're preparing to carry out the death penalty, we have a solemn obligation to make sure that the case has been handled in full accordance with all the guarantees of our Constitution. The very foundations of our democracy depend on our ability to assure our citizens that in all criminal cases, and especially in the death penalty,

defendants have been treated fairly. This decision is going to create some frustration amongst people whose lives were destroyed and turned upside-down by Mr. McVeigh. But it is very important for our country to make sure that in death penalty cases, people are treated fairly.

I'll be glad to answer some questions, starting with Mr. Fournier [Ron Fournier, Associated Press].

Timothy McVeigh

Q. Mr. President, thank you, sir. Attorney General Ashcroft, on the topic you were just talking about, said, "There is no doubt in my mind, or anyone's mind, about the death of Timothy McVeigh."

First, as someone who signed 152 death warrants in Texas, do you agree that there is no doubt that McVeigh is guilty? And secondly, did Louis Freeh know about these documents when he tendered his resignation?

The President. Mr. Freeh, Director Freeh never brought this up to me. I found out about this last evening. My conversation with Mr. Freeh, when he came and said he was leaving—the subject never came up.

Secondly, Mr. McVeigh himself has admitted to the crime. Mr. McVeigh, as I recall, said he did it, and I take him for his word.

Q. Mr. President?

The President. Actually, I've been given an order. You're second, Steve [Steve Holland, Reuters].

Gasoline Prices

Q. Mr. President, thank you very much, sir. A lot of families are struggling to pay for gasoline at record prices. What can you do to help them in the short term? Will your energy report address that? And do you agree with your Energy Secretary, that OPEC bears some responsibility for these prices?

The President. The price of crude oil has got something to do with the price of gasoline but not nearly as much as the fact that we haven't built a refinery in years. What this Nation needs to do is to build more refining capacity. And we're prepared to work with the industry to encourage capital development, capital to be deployed to develop more refining capacity. And that may require us

to analyze all regulations that discourage development.

But the best way to make sure that people are able to deal with high energy prices is to cut taxes, is to give people more of their own money so they can meet the bills, so they can meet the high energy prices.

I'm not so sure you're it next. Gregory [David Gregory, NBC News]. You're soon.

Q. Mr. President, can I follow up on that point?

The President. Yes.

Q. Your party in the past has argued in favor of either suspending or rolling back the Federal gasoline tax. Will you consider doing either? And secondly, what would you say to American families who may pay as much as \$3 at the pump this summer, at the same time that oil companies in this country are experiencing and enjoying record profits?

The President. What I say is, I worry about the fact that hard-working people are paying high prices at the pump. It concerns me a lot. And therefore, the Congress needs to cut taxes as quickly as possible, to give people money to be able to deal with this situation.

I also say, we need to build more refining capacity. We need more supply. We need to meet the increasing demands with better supply. I'm optimistic in the long term, not only will we increase supplies but that our automobiles will become more technologically adept at dealing with the energy situation now. In other words, we'll have new types of automobiles, hybrids.

And in the energy plan I'm going to be discussing, you'll see some incentives for hybrid automobiles. But the quickest way to get money in people's pockets to deal with prices is tax relief.

Bill Plante [CBS News].

Q. Mr. President, are you really going to let Republicans in Congress go home for the next recess without some kind of other short-term relief? You know the Democrats are after you and the Vice President, saying you're a couple of former oil men protecting the industry. Would you at least support the Republican bill in the House which would ease some emission standards in California?

The President. Back to David's question, I'll listen to everybody's suggestions. But I

want to remind the Members of Congress, both Republican and Democrat, all of us are concerned about high energy prices and prices at the gas pump being too high. Let's get the tax relief done and do it quickly.

I hope there is no intention to delay. There needs to be money in the pockets of our consumers as quickly as possible. We've got the wherewithal to do so. But as to suggestions, I'm open minded for any suggestions somebody may have.

Q. What about that emissions—

The President. I'll look at all options. But the clearest way to get things done quickly is tax relief.

Now, the American people have got to understand that this is a situation that's going to require some long-term planning to get the situation in hand for the—to have a stable future. There is no such thing as immediate supply. This is a situation that's been developing over the years, and it's going to take a while to correct.

The quickest way to help people with their energy bills is tax relief. That is the quickest, surest way to do so.

Q. All options, including the gas tax, sir?

The President. If anybody thinks they've got a good idea, I'll listen. But for certain, what needs to happen is additional refining capacity, as well as tax relief.

Yes, Terry [Terry Moran, ABC News].

Death Penalty

Q. Mr. President, 51 percent of the American people now, according to a recent poll, support a moratorium on executions; and support for the penalty in general has dropped considerably over the past couple years. Does what happened in the McVeigh case, coupled with the more than 75 people now who have been released from death row when evidence of their actual innocence came to light, does all of that lead you to reflect at all on the fairness and the accuracy of the death penalty and the way it's actually administered day to day?

The President. Well, I am pleased to be able to report, as for the first case that came to my desk at the Federal Government, that my administration is going to take its time to make sure that justice has been administered fairly.

Q. But do you reflect at all on the general accuracy and fairness of the death penalty, and the way it actually works day to day?

The President. As Mr. Fournier brought up, I was the Governor of a State that had a death penalty, and as far as I was concerned, I reviewed every case, and I was confident that every person that had been put to death received full rights and was guilty of the crime charged.

Q. So no second thoughts about the death penalty?

The President. Not as far as I'm concerned, so long as the system provides fairness. And today is an example of the system being fair.

Major [Major Garrett, Cable News Network].

Repeal of the Gas Tax

Q. Mr. President, on the question of repealing the gas tax, even some Republicans have questioned the leadership and the clarity of voice from this White House about what they should do. I've talked to several Republican leaders who have said the White House has said, "Look, if you can figure out a way to pass it, we'll say it's okay, but we're not going to propose it." And what they say is, "If the White House would say they're for it, it would be easier for us to pass it."

Can you tell the American people right now—

The President. Major, I can tell—let me say it again, see if I can be more clear. To the Congress, who is interested in helping consumers pay high gas prices, pass the tax relief as quickly as possible. We've set aside \$100 billion to help consumers with high energy prices. That's the quickest way to help consumers. I am deeply concerned about consumers, I am deeply concerned about high gas prices.

To anybody who wants to figure out how to help the consumers, pass the tax relief package as quickly as possible.

Jim [Jim Angle, FOX News].

Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Q. Mr. President, there are a number of people, including Senator Leahy, who was here today, who are suggesting that there

needs to be much tighter oversight of the FBI. Aside from the McVeigh matter, there have been a number of things over the years—the FBI labs, the Hanssen case, and a number of other things. Do you believe it's time for a more sweeping look at what is going on at the FBI?

The President. There are two looks at what's happening in the FBI. One, of course, is the commission that Louis Freeh put together, headed by Judge Webster. I'm confident that that commission will take a full look at the proceedings within the FBI, as to regards to security matters.

And secondly, the Attorney General is going to be conducting an investigation as to why the documents were not given to Mr. McVeigh's lawyers. And I look forward to seeing what those findings reveal.

Yes, ma'am.

Energy Resources

Q. Mr. President, to follow up on energy. You're developing closer relations with Nigeria, Mexico, and Canada. Could you use your leverage with these countries to have them convince Saudi Arabia to open the spigots and provide more fuel?

The President. The reason why we have a problem at the gas pump at this particular moment in history is because we haven't built any refining capacity. When you don't increase supplies of a commodity and demand continues to increase, the price is going to go up.

And so our Nation must expand refining capacity. And we've got to do that within our hemisphere. Otherwise, when you transport refined product from far distances, it doesn't meet market tests. So we need more refining capacity.

I am working with Canada and Mexico to increase the supply, particularly of natural gas. We have a serious situation in the State of California, as you're very aware. We've been working with the officials of California to expedite the development of new electric generating capacity.

We're also doing our part as a good citizen to reduce demand for electricity in peak hours. But the new plants that are being brought on stream in California are going to be driven by natural gas. And we need more

natural gas to make sure there is fuel for those plants.

So I am working with Mexico and I am working with Canada to try to figure out ways for us to encourage exploration in our own neighborhood. I had a good discussion today with the President of Nigeria, who is talking about increasing their amount of production, coming from Nigeria. That is positive news for U.S. consumers. The more supply on the market, the lower—the less pressure there will be on price.

Ron [Ron Hutcherson, Knight Ridder].

National Economy

Q. Given what's going on with energy prices and the difficulties in the economy, can you assure the American people at the start of your term that they'll be better off at the end of it than they are today? And if they're not, should they blame you?

The President. Well, I certainly hope they're better off. There's no question that the minute I got elected, the storm clouds on the horizon were getting nearly directly overhead. In other words, the economic news started to deteriorate.

The truth of the matter is, the market started to adjust March of last year. In other words, the so-called downturn has been in the making for a while. I believe with good policy from the Fed, as well as good fiscal policy, that we can recover, that that robust growth we all hope for will come back. I wish I could tell you when. I'm not an economist, but if I were, I'd probably say there's a 50 percent chance it would happen soon and a 50 percent chance it wouldn't.

Q. And if it doesn't work out, does that mean it's not your fault?

The President. Listen, Presidents, whether things are good or bad, get the credit or blame. I understand that.

But Ron, I'm not really that concerned about standing in polls. I am doing what I think is the right thing to do. And the right thing to do is to have proposed a tax relief package that is an integral part of a fiscal policy that makes sense.

I proposed the plan. I campaigned on the plan. Many of you, the truth be known here, didn't actually think it was going to happen. Now there's a budget in place, \$1.25 trillion

of tax relief, coupled with 100 billion of immediate stimulus that's now available.

If I had my way, I'd have it in place tomorrow, so that people would have money in their pockets to deal with high energy prices, so people would have money in their pockets to be able to plan for the future. The Congress needs to act. I'm confident that that will help an economic recovery.

Q. Mr. President?

The President. Bob [G. Robert Hillman, Dallas Morning News].

Federal Bureau of Investigation Nomination

Q. Sir, how are the recent controversies in the FBI affecting your search for a new Director? Just what kind of person are you looking to head the FBI?

The President. We've just started, Bob. I look forward to seeing what the Webster report says. I look forward to hearing what the Attorney General says about the—about the reason why Mr. McVeigh's attorneys did not get—did not see certain documents.

And I am looking for somebody who will do a couple of things: one, enforce the law; two, keep morale high at the agency; somebody who is a good manager; and somebody who can work with the Attorney General in my administration.

Q. What's your timetable?

The President. As soon as possible. I'm not sure what that means, though, to be perfectly frank with you. I mean, we're beginning to look at different candidates, and it's a—obviously, it's a process that's going to take a while. Director Freeh assured me that the number two person there could do a good job if we took us a while to find a replacement.

Glen [Glen Johnson, Boston Globe].

Timothy McVeigh

Q. Mr. President, some of those who have interviewed Tim McVeigh say that he will actually revel in what happened today—

The President. Really?

Q. —that it will be a sign of FBI incompetence. What message should he take from this whole episode, in your mind?

The President. He should say—he's lucky to be in America, is what he ought to say,

that this is a country who will bend over backwards to make sure that his constitutional rights are guaranteed, that as opposed to rushing his fate, that the Attorney General, with my strong support, said, we better make sure that all guarantees are fulfilled. Mr. McVeigh is lucky to be in a country like this.

It's unfortunate that he would feel like revealing, at all, after what he supposedly has done. There are a lot of people's lives he affected; there are a lot of people in Oklahoma City—I went to the memorial. I got to see the faces of people, the pictures of people whose lives were lost. I talked to relatives who still weep when they think about a relative.

This isn't a time to reveal.

Yes, Bruni [Frank Bruni, New York Times].

Q. But to follow up on that, what will those relatives, what will those families of victims gain? What will—how will they benefit from Timothy McVeigh's execution?

The President. Frank, you need to talk to them about that.

Q. In your opinion.

The President. Well, I can't possibly put myself in their stead.

Q. Why is his execution so important and the death penalty so important, then?

The President. Because it needs to send a signal to anybody who thinks what Timothy McVeigh did was okay, that in this society we're not going to tolerate that kind of heinous act.

But you need to talk to the—all I can tell you is, I'm sure there's going to be some frustration by the family members, by the decision that the Attorney General made, supported by me. I'm sure there will be, and we'll probably hear from them. But they must understand that we live in a country that protects certain rights. And the Attorney General did the right thing in this decision.

Mike [Mike Allen, Washington Post].

U.S. Citizens Held in China

Q. Mr. President, what is your level of concern about U.S. citizens who remain held in China, and what are you doing for them?

The President. We've sent clear signals to the Chinese that we expect our citizens that have been detained, and/or citizens who

have been detained with U.S. relatives, that we expect them to be treated fairly. And we'd like for them to have whatever due process the Chinese can offer. We have expressed our concerns. Sometimes they listen; sometimes they don't.

Our relations with China are relations that are going to be based upon a consistent message with the Chinese: One, we expect there to be trade, and I hope there is trade; but two, that we expect people to be treated fairly inside that country. And hopefully they'll respond.

Confidence in the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Q. Mr. President, is your confidence in the FBI undermined by this episode?

The President. I'm obviously concerned about an incident where documents have been misplaced. But I withhold judgment until I find out the full facts, to find out what the Attorney General's investigation finds out.

Martha [Martha Brant, Newsweek].

American Justice System

Q. Mr. President, following up on that, do you think our American justice system is healthy, or does it need fixing?

The President. I think, by and large, the system is healthy. And I think today proved why it is healthy—that ours is a Government that when found that documents hadn't been given to the defense attorney, even though those documents reviewed by our own—by our Justice Department lawyers didn't feel like it was going to change the verdict. But we delayed until Mr. McVeigh's attorneys have a chance to look at the documents.

Death Penalty

Q. Mr. President, if I can follow up. You know that those documents could have been discovered days after Timothy McVeigh had been executed. You also know that there is some concern about a forensic scientist in Oklahoma City who was involved in a number of death penalty cases, a number of—

The President. Say that again on the forensic scientist?

Q. —in Oklahoma City, who was involved in a number of death penalty cases.

Those inmates happened to be executed. What can you say to the American people—

The President. Well, in this case—

Q. Let me just finish.

The President. Okay, I'm sorry. I beg your pardon. [*Laughter*]

Q. Thank you, sir. [*Laughter*]

What can you say or what can you do as President to ensure that, at the Federal/State level, the death penalty is always administered fairly?

The President. Well, at the State level, I encourage Governors to be diligent and to look at all the facts and to make sure that people get full access to the courts and that there is no question about the person's guilt.

At the Federal level, I'm pleased to report, that on the first case that came toward my desk, my administration reacted the way it should have. Which is, given the fact that documents had been misplaced, the Attorney General recommended the delay of the execution until the—Mr. McVeigh's rights were fully vetted; in other words, his lawyers have a chance to look at those documents.

It was the right thing to do. And you bring up a hypothetical, but that's not the way it happened. The way it happened was that the evidence was brought forth, and we made a decision, and it was the correct decision.

Yes, sir.

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, you would not equate the baby that was killed in retaliatory Israeli fire in the Gaza Strip with a 13- and 14-year-old Jewish boy, one of them a U.S. citizen, who were tied up, beaten to death, and mutilated near Tekoa, would you?

The President. I was kind of smiling. It sounded kind of like an editorial.

But the death in the Middle East is abhorrent, and our Nation weeps when people lose their lives. And what we must do is work hard to break the cycle of violence. It's going to be very difficult for us to be able to bring people to the peace table so long as there is violence. And we will continue to work to break the cycle of violence.

Tommy [Thomas M. DeFrank, New York Daily News].

United Nations Human Rights Commission

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Did you speak to Secretary-General Annan this morning about the United Nations vote to kick the U.S. off the Human Rights Commission? And if so, what did you tell him?

The President. I did. I told him it was hard for me to envision a Human Rights Commission without the United States on it and Sudan being on it—let me put it that way. We're off, and Sudan is on. I'm not so sure—you know, that sent an awfully, awfully strange signal to the world, it seems like to me.

Yes.

Q. A followup. Did you—or do you believe that some U.S. back dues to the United Nations should be withheld as a result of that vote, as some in Congress were asking?

The President. I do not. I think we have made an agreement with the United Nations, an agreement that had been negotiated in good faith, and I think we ought to pay our dues. Having said that, the decision was an outrageous decision. To me, it undermines the whole credibility of this Commission—to kick the United States off, one of the great bastions of human rights, and allow Sudan to be on. And I think most reasonable people in the world see it that way.

But I did bring up the subject. Thank you for pinning me.

Q. Did he agree?

The President. He listened carefully.

Yes, sir.

Energy Policy

Q. Another energy question, if I may, Mr. President.

The President. Please.

Q. What would you tell an American citizen who is suspicious that your energy policy is going to benefit the oil industry, because of your background and Vice President Cheney's background in the industry?

The President. I would tell the American people I'm going to tell the truth when it comes to energy, that we have a serious problem, that we need to do a couple of things. One, we need to encourage the development of technologies to help us conserve. We need to be more conservation minded in America.

But I'm also going to say, as plainly as I can, we won't conserve our way to energy independence. We must also increase supply. It's in the consumer's interests that we do so. The more supply there is, relative to demand, the less the price will be.

And I believe that we can have exploration and sound environmental policy go hand in hand. The only thing I know to do, sir, is to tell the truth the way I see it. And we can play like there's not an energy crisis or hope there's not a problem. There is a problem, and there's a problem that's going to confront this Nation. And my job as the President is to take the problem on and propose the solutions I think necessary to solve the problem. And again, I repeat, it's a combination of good conservation and an increase in supplies. And I believe we can do both.

And so, I think most of the American people understand that. Thank you.

Yes.

Japan

Q. Mr. President, Japan's new Prime Minister, Junichiro Koizumi, has accepted your invitation to visit the United States as early as possible. He now enjoys very good support of more than 80 percent, mainly to his strong commitment to economic reforms in Japan.

The President. Yes.

Q. Mr. President, now are you more optimistic about the future of the second largest economy of the world, or are you still very concerned?

The President. Well, I am concerned, but I am optimistic when I read what the Prime Minister has said about reforms. Now, I believe he's a man who is intent up on reforming the system. I had a good visit with him on the telephone. I look forward to meeting him in person. I look forward to discussing ways in which our important friendship can remain strong. And I look forward to hearing from him what he and his government intend to do to reform the system.

Japan is a very important partner of the United States. And it's not only an economic partner, but it's an important partner to keep stability in the Far East. It's important for us to work closely together, and I look forward to meeting him soon. And I'm confident

we'll have a very good dialog when I'm able to do so.

Thank you all very much. Have a very good weekend.

NOTE: The President's sixth news conference began at 2:04 p.m. in the James S. Brady Briefing Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan; Judge William H. Webster, former Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, who is leading the espionage investigation of Special Agent Robert Philip Hanssen; and President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria.

Memorandum on Cooperation by Vietnam in Accounting for United States Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

May 11, 2001

Presidential Determination No. 2001-15

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Cooperation by Vietnam in Accounting for United States Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

As provided under section 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Other Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, as contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2001, Public Law 106-553, I hereby determine, based on all information available to the United States Government, that the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is fully cooperating in good faith with the United States in the following four areas related to achieving the fullest possible accounting for Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Vietnam War:

- 1) resolving discrepancy cases, live sightings, and field activities;
- 2) recovering and repatriating American remains;
- 3) accelerating efforts to provide documents that will help lead to the fullest possible accounting of POW/MIAs; and,
- 4) providing further assistance in implementing trilateral investigations with Laos.

I further determine that the appropriate

laboratories associated with POW/MIA accounting are thoroughly analyzing remains, material, and other information and fulfilling their responsibilities as set forth in subsection (B) of section 610, and information pertaining to this accounting is being made available to immediate family members in compliance with 50 U.S.C. 435 note.

I have been advised and believe that section 610 is unconstitutional because it purports to use a condition on appropriations as a means to direct my execution of responsibilities that the Constitution commits exclusively to the President. I am providing this determination as a matter of comity, while reserving the position that the condition enacted in section 610 is unconstitutional.

In making this determination, I have taken into account all information available to the United States Government as reported to me, the full range of ongoing accounting activities in Vietnam, including joint and unilateral Vietnamese efforts, and the concrete results we have attained as a result.

Finally, in making this determination, I wish to reaffirm my continuing personal commitment to the entire POW/MIA community, especially to the immediate families, relatives, friends, and supporters of these brave individuals, and to reconfirm that the central, guiding principle of my Vietnam policy is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our prisoners of war and missing in action.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the contents of this memorandum.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

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

May 6

In the afternoon, the President returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC, where he and Mrs. Bush hosted a tee-ball game on the South Lawn.

May 8

The President announced his intention to nominate William Henry Lash III to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access Compliance.

The President announced the nomination of Susan Morrissey Livingstone to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

May 9

The President announced his intention to nominate Vincent Martin Battle to be Ambassador to Lebanon.

The President announced his intention to nominate Representative Asa Hutchinson to be Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Brian Carlton Roseboro to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Markets.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Philadelphia, PA, on May 14.

May 10

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Vienna, VA, and later, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster in Illinois and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by flooding beginning on April 18 and continuing.

May 11

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President declared a major disaster in Wisconsin and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by flooding and severe storms on April 10 and continuing.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

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

Submitted May 7

Stephen Brauer,
of Missouri, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Belgium.

Jack Dyer Crouch II,
of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, vice Franklin D. Kramer.

Susan Morrissey Livingstone,
of Montana, to be Under Secretary of the Navy, vice Robert B. Pirie, Jr.

James G. Roche,
of Maryland, to be Secretary of the Air Force, vice F. Whitten Peters.

Submitted May 8

Mary Sheila Gall,
of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, vice Ann Brown.

William Henry Lash III,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, vice Patrick A. Mulloy, resigned.

Submitted May 9

Terrence W. Boyle,
of North Carolina, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, vice J. Dickson Phillips, Jr., retired.

Edith Brown Clement,
of Louisiana, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, vice John M. Duhe, Jr., retired.

Deborah L. Cook,
of Ohio, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Alan E. Norris, retired.

Miguel A. Estrada,
of Virginia, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, vice Patricia M. Wald, retired.

Roger L. Gregory,
of Virginia, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit (new position).

Michael W. McConnell,
of Utah, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, vice Stephen H. Anderson, retired.

Priscilla Richman Owen,
of Texas, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, vice William L. Garwood, retired.

Barrington D. Parker,
of Connecticut, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, vice Ralph K. Winter, retired.

John G. Roberts, Jr.,
of Maryland, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, vice James L. Buckley, retired.

Dennis W. Shedd,
of South Carolina, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, vice Clyde H. Hamilton, retired.

Jeffrey S. Sutton,
of Ohio, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice David A. Nelson, retired.

Submitted May 10

Cari M. Dominguez,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2001, vice Joyce Elaine Tucker, term expired.

Cari M. Dominguez,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2006 (reappointment).

Michael K. Powell,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of 5 years from July 1, 2002 (reappointment).

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

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

Released May 7

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Released May 8

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Released May 9

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary: Review of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Cyber Security

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing the President's upcoming visit to Philadelphia, PA

Released May 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Illinois

Released May 11

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 256, the Family Farmer Bankruptcy Act retroactive extension

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved May 11

H.R. 256 / Public Law 107-8
To extend for 11 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted