

continued deployment of United States forces in and around the Arabian Peninsula necessitates this action.

A copy of the Executive order implementing this action is attached.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH

Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate. The Executive order is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the Activation of the Ready Reserve

January 18, 1991

At the request of the Secretary of Defense, the President today authorized the Department of Defense and the Department of Transportation to order members of the Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to active duty under the provisions of section 673 of title 10, United States Code. This step is necessary to support the continued operations of U.S. forces in Operation

Desert Storm. This authority will enable reservists to remain on active duty for longer than 180 days and will also permit the call to active duty of personnel in excess of the 200,000 previously authorized.

The Executive order on the activation of the Ready Reserve is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the Death of King Olav V of Norway

January 18, 1991

The President today sent a letter to His Majesty King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja of Norway extending President and Mrs. Bush's condolences on the death of King Olav V. In the letter, the President said that King Olav V was a symbol of Norway's spirit and verve, and that his graciousness and energy would be

missed.

King Olav V lived in the United States during the Second World War as a guest of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. During his long reign, Norway and the United States have enjoyed a very close and productive friendship. He was much admired by the American people.

Nomination of Melissa Foelsch Wells To Be United States Ambassador to Zaire

January 18, 1991

The President today announced his intention to nominate Melissa Foelsch Wells, of Connecticut, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Coun-

selor, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Zaire. She would succeed William Caldwell Harrop.