

Apr. 6 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2001

Horatio Alger lived, and it's just as true for children today. His stories call to mind an era very distant from ours, and they were just stories, but they had a point, and they showed young readers the way.

Such stories are still being written in America, in every town and city, every day, and in real life. Today we recognize 10 such lives, the example they set and the promise they hold for others to follow. And it is my honor to honor them.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:03 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to H. Wayne Huizenga,

president and CEO, Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, who introduced the President; 2001 Horatio Alger Award winners Marvin A. Pomerantz, James V. Kimsey, Linda G. Alvarado, Stephen G. Schott, Archie W. Dunham, Bill Greehey, Wesley E. Cantrell, Franklin D. Raines, John H. Dasburg, and Chuck Hagel; and Ruth Stafford Peale, association member and widow of association founder Norman Vincent Peale. The President also referred to Title I of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law No. 103-382), which amended Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Public Law No. 89-10).

Statement on Senate Action on Federal Budget Legislation *April 6, 2001*

I want to say I've got a little news I'd like to report. I'm really pleased to report that the United States Senate just moments ago passed a budget that funds our Nation's priorities and allows for over \$1.2 trillion of meaningful, real tax relief for the American people.

The House has already passed \$1.6 trillion of tax relief. Now the House and Senate will work to find common ground between these two budget plans, and the result will be the largest tax relief in decades. The fact that both Houses of Congress have committed to provide significant relief is

good for the American people, and it's good for the economy.

When the House and Senate complete their work, they will have paved the way so the American people can receive an across-the-board income tax reduction, a doubling of the child credit, relief from the marriage penalty, and the elimination of the death tax. This budget also wisely increases spending on education, funds priorities like Medicare and Social Security, and pays down a record amount of debt.

I applaud today's action and congratulate the Republicans and Democrats who helped make it happen.

Remarks on Repair of the Daniel Webster Hoan Bridge in Milwaukee, Wisconsin *April 6, 2001*

How are you all today? It's good to be here. I'm pleased to be here with Governor McCallum and the mayor of Milwaukee;

Secretary Mineta and Secretary Thompson, former Governor of the great State of Wisconsin.

I'm looking forward to tossing out the first ball today. I haven't decided if I'm going to go with a rising fastball, a splitter, or a breaking pitch. *[Laughter]* But nevertheless, it's going to be a great honor to be there. Miller Park will be a proud part of Milwaukee's landscape.

But there is another key structure that is an important part of the life of this city, the Daniel Webster Hoan Bridge. For the last several months, a lot of effort has gone into helping repair the Hoan Bridge, but the job is not yet complete. So I'm here to tell the good people of Milwaukee that fixing the Hoan Bridge is a priority of my administration.

I've brought along the Secretary of Transportation here to identify the quickest way to rebuild this critical artery for Milwaukee. The Hoan Bridge is eligible for funding from the Department of Transportation. We look forward to partnering with the State of Wisconsin to complete the rebuilding of the Hoan Bridge.

Today Secretary Mineta and I have received an application for Federal funds from the Governor of Wisconsin, and I plan to make this project an important priority. Almost 100,000 people live in areas directly served by the Hoan Bridge, and because of its limited capacity and weight restrictions, many commuters and shippers must find alternate routes. We are committed to helping Wisconsin take care of this problem.

Secretary Mineta and I recognize that maintaining the infrastructure of our cities is a vital role for Government. I'm glad we can be of assistance to the citizens of Wisconsin.

Thank you very much. See you at the ballpark.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:08 p.m. at General Mitchell International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Scott McCallum of Wisconsin and Mayor John O. Norquist of Milwaukee.

Message on the Observance of Passover *April 6, 2001*

I am pleased to send warm greetings to Jews around the world celebrating the Passover holiday, beginning at sundown on April 7. As you gather with family and friends, eat traditional foods, and sing joyous songs, you follow in the footsteps of your forefathers in remembering the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt nearly 3,500 years ago.

During this season of renewal, the Passover holiday commemorates the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery. Through the years, Jewish sages have taught that the lesson of freedom found in the miracle of Passover has two important aspects. The first is the escape from physical bondage and the regaining of dignity and equality by the individual and by a people. Equally

important is spiritual liberation from selfish desires and destructive habits.

The flight from slavery led quickly to Mount Sinai and the Holy One's gift of the Commandments to Moses and the Israelites. They were then fully free to follow the Creator's laws in striving to perfect their own lives and the world in which they lived. The connection between freedom from bondage and the gift of the Commandments enhances Passover's abiding influence, not only as a Jewish holiday, but also as an inspiration to all mankind.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a joyous and memorable holiday observance.

GEORGE W. BUSH