

*July 4 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2001*

great anniversary of religious liberty, we remember the ideals of America and the things of the spirit that sustain them.

The Liberty Bell has been mostly silent for two centuries. And during the Revolution, it was unseen, hidden under the floorboards of a church in Allentown. Yet even in silence, it has always borne one message, cast for the ages with the words of the Old Testament: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."

In this place of history, we honor the first generation of Americans who followed those words, and we give thanks to the God who watched over our country then and who watches to this very day.

Thank you all. And may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:30 p.m. at Independence National Historical Park. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor John F. Street of Philadelphia.

### Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to Libya *July 4, 2001*

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

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 (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 12543 of January 7, 1986.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 5.

### Remarks on the Nomination of Robert S. Mueller to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation *July 5, 2001*

*The President.* Thank you all for coming. General, thank you for being here. It is my honor to nominate Robert S. Mueller, of California, to become the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I want to welcome his wife, Anne, here, and I want to welcome you all to the Rose Garden.

When confirmed, Mr. Mueller will be only the sixth person to hold this position. He assumes great responsibilities. He was

chosen with great care, and he has my full confidence.

Bob Mueller earned my trust and that of the Attorney General when he served as Acting Deputy Attorney General earlier this year. He also has earned the confidence of other Presidents before me. He is the current U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California. He was appointed to that position by President

Clinton. He served in my father's administration, as well. Before that, he was U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts, making him one of the very few ever to serve as chief Federal prosecutor in two jurisdictions.

Our next FBI Director has given nearly all his career to public service, going back to his days in the Marine Corps. He served with distinction and was decorated during the Vietnam war. As a lawyer, prosecutor, and Government official, he has shown high ideals, a clear sense of purpose, and a tested devotion to his country.

As Director, Mr. Mueller will succeed a good and honest man, Director Louis Freeh, who has my respect and the gratitude of our Nation. I also want to thank Acting Director Pickard, who has served well during this transition.

The FBI has a great tradition that Mr. Mueller must now affirm and some important challenges he must confront. Like the Department of Justice, the FBI must remain independent of politics and uncompromising in its mission.

Bob Mueller's term in office will last longer than my own. And the next 10 years will bring more forms of crime, new threats of terror from beyond our borders and within them. The tools of law enforcement will change, as well. The FBI must be ready to protect Americans from new types

of criminals who will use modern technology to defraud and disrupt our society. The Bureau must secure its rightful place as the premier counterespionage and counterterrorist organization in the United States. It must continue to serve as a resource and training center for law enforcement. And it must do all this with a firm commitment to safeguarding the constitutional rights of our citizens.

Bob Mueller's experience and character convinced me that he's ready to shoulder these responsibilities. Agents of the Bureau prize three virtues above all: fidelity, bravery, and integrity. This new Director is a man who exemplifies them all.

Congratulations.

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

*The President.* Congratulations.

*Director-designate Mueller.* Thank you very much, sir.

*The President.* Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Thomas J. Pickard, Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Director-designate Mueller.

## Remarks on Departure for Kennebunkport, Maine, and an Exchange With Reporters July 5, 2001

### *Education Reform Legislation*

*The President.* Thank you very much. Looking forward to spending the weekend with my family. I know Congress is spending weekends with their families, as well. And when they come back, there's going to be a lot of work to do, and there's nothing more important than getting the education bill to my desk.

I urge Congress to come back to work hard to reconciling differences that may exist between the House and the Senate bill and to get a bill to my desk quickly. It's important to do so. All you've got to do is ask the Governors and superintendents and local officials standing behind me.

These good folks have come to Washington to urge me to urge Congress to get