

Message to the Congress Transmitting Documents Describing the
Safeguard Action on Imports of Certain Steel Products
March 5, 2002

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 203(b) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “Act”), I hereby transmit documents to the Congress that describe the safeguard action that I have proclaimed on imports of certain steel products, pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 203(a)(1) of the

Act and as President of the United States, and the reasons for taking that action.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
March 5, 2002.

NOTE: The proclamation and memorandum of March 5 regarding imports of certain steel products are listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks During a Meeting With Judge Charles W. Pickering, Sr., and an
Exchange With Reporters
March 6, 2002

The President. I nominated a very good man from Mississippi named Charles Pickering to the appellate bench, and I expect him to be confirmed by the United States Senate. I think the country is tired of people playing politics all the time in Washington. And I believe that they’re holding this man’s nomination up for political purposes. It’s not fair, and it’s not right.

And a lot of people in Mississippi agree with me. Republicans agree with me, but so do a lot of good Democrats, starting with the attorney general of the State of Mississippi. He is here to lend his support for Charles Pickering. As well, the former Governor, Governor Winter, has expressed concern about a process that would malign a man such as him and expects him to be confirmed. Frank Hunger feels the same way. These are people in Mississippi who know the man for what he is, a man who respects the rights of all citizens and a man who not only respects the rights of all citizens, who has acted on that strong belief,

a man who’s a fine jurist, a man of quality and integrity.

And I hope the Senate stops playing politics. This is not good for the Senate, and it’s not good for the country. They’ve got to get him on the floor and get him a vote and get him in. He’ll do a fine job.

Judge Pickering’s Nomination

Q. Can we ask you a couple questions about his nomination, sir?

The President. Go ahead.

Q. Do you agree with your Press Secretary that if the judge’s writings and actions of 30—20, 30, 40 years ago should come into play, then so should the civil rights record of some of the very Senators of 30, 40 years ago? And is that a threat?

The President. Here’s what I believe: I believe this man should be confirmed. I know him. I’ve known him for a long time, but more importantly, people from Mississippi have known him. Democrats and Republicans know him. And he needs to