

people who understand that Harriet Miers will be a superb Supreme Court judge.

Welcome. I'm glad you're here.

*Justice Hill.* Thank you. Mr. President, we just all want to thank you for this nomination. We're excited about it, and we're here to try to let the people of America know what we all know, that she is an absolutely fantastic person and a great lawyer and will make a great judge.

*The President.* Well, thank you, sir. Appreciate you coming. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:27 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. Participating in the meeting were former Chief Justice John L. Hill, Jr., former Associate Justice Greg Abbott, former Associate Justice James A. Baker, former Associate Justice Eugene A. Cook, former Associate Justice Craig T. Enoch, and former Associate Justice Raul A. Gonzalez, Texas Supreme Court.

## Message to the Congress Giving Notice of Intent To Enter Into a Free Trade Agreement With Oman

*October 17, 2005*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Consistent with section 2105(a)(1)(A) of the Trade Act of 2002, (Public Law 107-210)(the "Trade Act"), I am pleased to notify the Congress of my intention to enter into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the Sultanate of Oman.

The Agreement will generate export opportunities for U.S. companies, farmers, and ranchers, help create jobs in the United States, and help American consumers save money while offering them more choices. Entering into an FTA with Oman will build on the FTAs that we already have with Israel, Jordan, and Morocco, as well as the FTA that we have concluded with Bahrain, and will be an important step on the path to fulfilling my

vision of developing economic growth and democracy in the Middle East and creating a U.S.-Middle East Free Trade Area (MEFTA) by 2013.

Consistent with the Trade Act, I am sending this notification at least 90 days in advance of signing the FTA. My Administration looks forward to working with the Congress in developing appropriate legislation to approve and implement this Agreement.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,  
October 17, 2005.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Remarks at the Iftaar Dinner

*October 17, 2005*

Please be seated. Thank you. Welcome to the White House. This is the fifth year in a row that it's been my honor to host an Iftaar in the State Dining Room.

Our distinguished guests represent the millions of Muslims that we're proud to call Americans, and many Islamic nations are represented here that America is proud