

Secondly, we want to work with Congress. When they come back in September, we want to work with Congress to pass that which is necessary to make sure that the Dole-Shalala Commission's recommendations are fully implemented. In other words, there are some aspects of the Commission recommendations that require congressional approval. We believe it's important for Congress to listen to the Commission. We believe the recommendations make a lot of sense, and we would ask for the Congress to pass those recommendations as quickly as possible, so I can sign them into law.

There's an amazing—there's a lot of amazing things taking place here in this facility. For example, we saw information technology, health care records that are being passed seamlessly from the Department of Defense to the VA to make sure that the care providers here have got up-to-date access for each patient. We saw volunteers helping the wounded learn to regain balance and confidence through

kayaking programs. I saw physical therapists—I heard physical therapists talk about their patients with the kind of care and compassion that obviously requires a big heart and strong commitment.

The commitment of this Government is this: Anybody who is sent into harm's way deserves the best possible care. We're dedicated to this goal. If we find problems, we'll solve the problems. For those who are providing the care, we thank you. For the soldiers who are receiving the care, we owe you the best. And for the families who stand by them, we thank you for your patience.

God bless our troops. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:07 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to former Sen. Robert J. Dole and former Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna E. Shalala, Co-chairs, President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors; and Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates.

## Remarks on the Resignation of Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Adviser Karl Rove

*August 13, 2007*

Karl Rove is moving on down the road. I've been talking to Karl for a while about his desire to spend more time with Darby and Andrew. This is a family that has made enormous sacrifices, not only for our beloved State of Texas but for a country we both love.

Now, we've been friends for a long time, and we're still going to be friends. I would call Karl Rove a dear friend. We've known each other as youngsters interested in serving our State. We worked together so we could be in a position to serve this country.

And so I thank my friend. I'll be on the road behind you here in a little bit. I thank Darby and I thank Karl for making a tremendous sacrifice, and I wish you all the very best.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:31 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Darby, wife, and Andrew, son, of Deputy Chief of Staff Rove. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Deputy Chief of Staff Rove.

Statement on the Death of Mervyn E. Griffin, Jr.  
*August 13, 2007*

For over half a century, Merv Griffin entertained America. He was a man of innovation and energy who greeted challenges with laughter and determination. By following his passions and trusting his instincts, Merv became one of our Nation's best-known and most respected entertainers. He introduced Americans to a generation of talent on his talk show, created

two of the most successful game shows in history, and led a thriving hospitality business. Merv was also a generous leader who gave back to his community, donating millions of dollars to provide abused children with safe haven and brighter futures.

Laura and I are saddened by his death. His family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National  
Emergency Regarding Export Control Regulations  
*August 15, 2007*

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

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency caused by the

lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended, is to continue in effect for 1 year beyond August 17, 2007.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Nancy Pelosi, 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 August 16. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on Representative Deborah D. Pryce's Decision Not To Seek  
Reelection  
*August 16, 2007*

Throughout her congressional career, Deborah Pryce has championed issues that matter to the families of central Ohio. Her commitment to reducing taxes, strengthening our national defense, and reforming our health care system has helped improve

the lives of her constituents and made America a more hopeful nation. She has also earned national recognition as a persuasive advocate on behalf of women and children. Based on her strong legislative record and consensus-building skills, Deb's