

Statement Announcing an Upcoming Visit and Further Assistance to Colombia

August 4, 2000

I am pleased to announce I will travel on August 30 to Colombia to meet with President Andres Pastrana and to personally underscore America's support for Colombia's efforts to seek peace, fight illicit drugs, build its economy, and deepen democracy. I am delighted that Speaker Dennis Hastert and Senator Joe Biden, two longtime champions of peace and democracy in Colombia, will join me on the trip.

Colombia's success is profoundly in the interest of the United States. A peaceful, democratic, and economically prosperous Colombia will help to promote democracy and stability throughout the hemisphere.

I have also signed a Presidential decision directive ordering, as a matter of national priority, an intensified effort to aid the Colombian Government in implementing Plan Colombia—President Pastrana's bold plan to build a better future for his country.

The Presidential decision directive complements and supports the \$1.3 billion assistance package that I requested from Congress, and that Democrats and Republicans passed in a bipartisan spirit last month. The cornerstone of our Colombia initiative, this supplemental includes a tenfold increase in U.S. funds to promote good government, judicial reform, human rights protection, and economic development in Colombia. It will help Colombia strengthen its democracy while helping the Government staunch the flow of drugs to our shores.

This directive, along with the sharp increase in funding from Congress, will intensify our efforts to help the Colombian Government implement its comprehensive national strategy. It is the right way to advance America's interests in the region, and I am proud of the bipartisan effort that has made it possible.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 29

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton participated in a staff picnic on the South Lawn at the White House. Later, they traveled to New York City, arriving in the afternoon.

Later, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Chappaqua, New York.

July 30

In the morning, the President traveled to Chicago, IL, and in the evening, he returned to Washington, DC.

July 31

In the morning, the President traveled to Tampa, FL. In the afternoon, he visited the National Football League Tampa Bay Buccaneers training camp facility.

In the evening, the President traveled to Coral Gables, FL.

August 1

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to appoint Craig J. Mundie as a member of the National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The President announced his intention to appoint G. William Ruhl as a member of the National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

August 2

In the morning, the President was interviewed by telephone by former Senator John Danforth, the Justice Department-appointed Waco Special Counsel, concerning the investigation into events surrounding the 1993 incident in Waco, TX.

The President signed new Federal guidelines governing petitions for executive clemency regarding death row inmates convicted in Federal capital cases.

The President announced his intention to appoint Joe C. Adams to the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

August 3

The President announced his intention to nominate David W. Ogden to be Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division at the Department of Justice.

The President recess appointed Carl Spielvogel as Ambassador to the Slovak Republic.

The President recess appointed Robin Chandler Duke as Ambassador to Norway.

The President recess appointed James A. Daley as Ambassador to Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The President recess appointed Bill Lann Lee as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the Department of Justice.

The President announced the recess appointment of Sue Bailey as Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at the Department of Transportation. Ms. Bailey was nominated on July 25, 2000, and her nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

The President announced the recess appointment of Francisco J. Sanchez as Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs at the Department of Transportation. Mr. Sanchez was nominated on June 8, 2000, and his nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

The President announced the recess appointment of Ella Wong-Rusinko as Alternate Federal Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission. Ms. Wong-Rusinko was nominated on March 23, 2000, and her nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

The President recess appointed Art Campbell as Assistant Secretary for Economic Development at the Department of Commerce. Mr. Campbell was nominated to the U.S. Senate on March 22, 2000.

The President recess appointed Franz S. Leichter as a member of the Federal Housing Finance Board. Mr. Leichter was nominated to the U.S. Senate on June 8, 1999.

The President announced the recess appointment of W. Michael McCabe as Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. McCabe was nominated on November 16, 1999, and his nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

The President recess appointed Sally Katzen as Deputy Director for Management at the Office of Management and Budget.

The President recess appointed Randolph D. Moss as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice.

The White House announced that the President will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom during an August 9 ceremony at the White House to James Edward Burke, the late Senator John Chafee, Gen. Wesley K. Clark, USA (Ret.), Adm. William Crowe, USN (Ret.), Marian Wright Edelman, John Kenneth Galbraith, Msgr. George G. Higgins, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Mildred (Millie) Jeffrey, Mathilde Krim, George McGovern, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Cruz Reynoso, Rev. Gardner C. Taylor, and Simon Wiesenthal.

August 4

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Martha's Vineyard, MA, and in the evening, they traveled to Nantucket, MA.

Later, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Martha's Vineyard.

The President recess appointed George T. Frampton, Jr., as Chair and Member of the Council on Environmental Quality. Mr. Frampton was nominated to the U.S. Senate on February 2, his nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

The President recess appointed John D. Holum as Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs at the Department of State. Mr. Holum was nominated to the U.S. Senate on March 5, 1999, and his nomination is currently pending.

The President recess appointed Robert S. LaRussa as Under Secretary for International

Trade at the Department of Commerce. Mr. LaRussa was nominated to the United States Senate on May 25, 2000.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released August 2

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's interview with Waco Special Counsel John Danforth

Released August 3

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to 15 distinguished individuals on August 9

Fact sheet: Export Controls on Computers

Released August 4

Fact sheet: Presidential Decision Directive on the Colombia Initiative: Increased U.S. Assistance for Colombia

Acts Approved by the President

Approved August 2

H.R. 1791 / Public Law 106-254
Federal Law Enforcement Animal Protection Act of 2000

H.R. 4249 / Public Law 106-255
Cross-Border Cooperation and Environmental Safety in Northern Europe Act of 2000