

not only to America's security but to the security of law-abiding nations everywhere subject to the same threat.

I am convinced that America and the world will be better off if we explore the frontiers of strategic defenses, while continuing to pursue arms control, to stand with our allies, and to work with Russia and others to stop the spread of deadly weapons. I strongly believe this is the best course for the United States, and therefore the decision I have reached today is in the best security interest of the United States. In short, we need to move forward with realism, with steadiness, and with prudence, not dismissing the threat we face or assuming we can meet it while ignoring our overall strategic environment, including the interests and concerns of our allies, friends, and other nations. A national missile defense, if deployed, should be part of a larger strategy to preserve and enhance the peace, strength, and security we now enjoy and to build an even safer world.

I have tried to maximize the ability of the next President to pursue that strategy. In so doing, I have tried to maximize the chance that all you young students will live in a safer, more humane, more positively interdependent world. I hope I have done so. I believe I have.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:23 a.m. in Gaston Hall. In his remarks, he referred to School of Foreign Service Dean Bob Gallucci, Provost Dorothy Brown, and President Leo J. O'Donovan, Georgetown University; President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; and President Vladimir Putin of Russia.

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.

August 26

In the afternoon, the President met with President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria in

the Drawing Room of the Presidential Villa in Abuja, Nigeria.

August 27

In the morning, the President and Chelsea Clinton traveled to Ushafa, Nigeria. In the afternoon, they returned to Abuja.

August 28

In the morning, the President participated in a farewell ceremony with President Obasanjo at Abuja International Airport, after which he and Chelsea Clinton traveled to Arusha, Tanzania.

In the afternoon, the President met with President Benjamin William Mkapa of Tanzania in the VIP Lounge at Kilimanjaro Airport.

In the evening, the President met with former President Nelson Mandela of South Africa and President Pierre Buyoya of Burundi at the Arusha International Conference Center.

The President announced his intention to appoint Beth Newburger as a member of the Women's Progress Commemoration Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Soy Williams as a member of the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Marilyn Mason to be a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

August 29

In the morning, the President and Chelsea Clinton traveled to Cairo, Egypt. Later, they returned to Washington, DC.

August 30

In the morning, the President and Chelsea Clinton traveled to Cartagena, Colombia. In the afternoon, they toured the Port of Cartagena, where they met with widows of Colombian National Police and Colombian Armed Forces law enforcement officers killed in counternarcotics activities. Later, the President met with President Andres Pastrana of Colombia in the President's Office at the Casa de Huespedes. He then visited the new Cartagena Casa de Justicia, where he participated in a dedication and plaque unveiling ceremony.

In the evening, the President and Chelsea Clinton returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert B. Pirie, Jr., to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

The President announced his intention to appoint Doris Matsui as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

The President announced his intention to appoint Frank Soares as a member of the National Veterans Business Development Corporation.

The President declared a major disaster in Montana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by wildfires on July 13 and continuing.

August 31

The President announced the recess appointment of James Charles Riley as a Commissioner of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

September 1

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Syracuse, NY.

The President announced his intention to appoint Harold Holzer and James Oliver Horton as members of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

The President declared a major disaster in Idaho and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by wildfires on July 27 and continuing.

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 26

Transcript of a press briefing by NSC Senior Director for African Affairs Gayle Smith and Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Susan Rice on the President's visit to Nigeria

Announcement: Official Delegation Accompanying the President to Africa, August 25–29, 2000

Fact sheet: Nigeria

Fact sheet: Nigeria: The Challenging Transition to Democracy

Fact sheet: U.S.-Nigerian Cooperation on Peacekeeping and Military Reform

Fact sheet: United States-Nigeria Open Skies Agreement and Other Transportation Initiatives

Fact sheet: The United States and Nigeria: Energy, Labor, Law Enforcement, Environment, Democracy, and Biotechnology

Released August 27

Transcript of a press briefing by White House Office of National AIDS Policy Director Sandra Thurman and Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Susan Rice on the President's visit to Nigeria

Fact sheet: Nigeria: Bridging the Digital Divide and Improving Access to Education

Fact sheet: The United States and Nigeria: Expanding Trade and Investment

Fact sheet: The United States and Nigeria: Joining Forces to Fight AIDS and Infectious Diseases

Released August 28

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger, NSC Senior Director for African Affairs Gayle Smith, and Special Envoy to Africa's Great Lakes Region Howard Wolpe on the Burundi peace process

Announcement: U.S.-Tanzania Bilateral Relations