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Remarks on Departure for Kennebunkport, Maine

August 2, 2002

Legislative Agenda

The President. August was a month of accomplishment here in Washington. Today I signed a supplemental which provided needed money for our military, money for the ongoing war on terror, and money for homeland security. Next week I'm going to sign a trade promotion authority bill, which is very important for American workers.

Today the statistics are out that show that the unemployment rate is holding steady. We've got a lot of work to do to make sure people can find work, and this trade bill is going to help a lot. It's going to help our ranchers. It's going to help our farmers. It's going to help people find jobs.

I signed a bill that says loud and clear that if you try to fudge the numbers, if you're a CEO of an American corporation and you don't tell the truth, you'll be held to account.

And when you look at these accomplishments, and you couple them with the tax cuts, the education bill, the brownfields legislation, it goes to show what is possible when people in this town set aside politics and focus on doing what's right for the American people. It goes to show that when we put our partisanship aside, when people stop all the yelling and hollering and finger-pointing and say, how can we help the American people, we can get a lot done in this town.

I pledge to the American people, I'll continue leading Washington by defusing all the ugly talk, by keeping big goals in mind, by always remembering we're here to represent the American people.

I hope you all have a fine weekend. I look forward to seeing you on Monday, and then I'll be signing that trade bill on Tuesday.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

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 27

In the very early morning, the President had telephone conversations with Members of Congress concerning trade promotion authority legislation.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Andrews Air Force Base, MD, where he played a round of golf with Republican House Members Michael G. Oxley, Dan Burton, and Tom DeLay.

July 28

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with American cyclist Lance Armstrong to congratulate him on winning his fourth Tour de France earlier in the day.

July 29

In the morning, the President had CIA and FBI briefings. He then traveled to Charleston, SC, where he participated in a roundtable discussion on welfare reform. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

July 30

In the morning, the President had CIA and FBI briefings.

In an afternoon ceremony at the White House, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors Levan Mikeladze of the Republic of Georgia; George Savvaides of Greece; Andrew Mhando Daraja of Tanzania; and Daniel Ayalon of Israel.

The White House announced that the President will meet with President Askar Akayev of the Kyrgyz Republic at the White House on September 23.

The President announced his intention to nominate D. Jeffrey Hirschberg to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

The President announced his designation of Donna M. Erwin as Acting Special Trustee of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians at the Department of the Interior.