

I know that this August, staff members of the conference will be working. And for those staff members who are here, I want to thank you for grinding through a complex piece of legislation and working out your differences. And then when the Members come back, we'll have some heavy lifting to do. But I want to be there to help you carry the load.

We've all come to Washington, those of us who have been elected to office, to serve something greater than ourselves. And we have a duty and a call to not only describe a problem but to address it. And in this case, when we do, the lives of our fellow citizens will be improved.

I want to thank you for your interest in this really important subject, thank the two Senators who have joined us today. I want to thank the members of my Cabinet who are here.

May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:45 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on the Earth Observation Summit

July 31, 2003

The United States is pleased to host more than 30 nations at the Earth Observation Summit. The Summit participants will discuss plans for achieving the goal of building a better integrated Earth observation system in the next 10 years, an objective established by the G-8 heads of state in Evian, France, in June 2003. An integrated Earth observation system will benefit people around the world, particularly those in the Southern Hemisphere. Working together, our nations will develop and link observation technologies for tracking weather and climate changes in every corner of the world, which will allow us to make more informed decisions affecting our environment and economies. Our cooperation will enable us to develop the capability to predict droughts, prepare for weather emergencies, plan and protect crops, manage coastal areas and fisheries, and monitor air quality.

Executive Order 13313—Delegation of Certain Congressional Reporting Functions

July 31, 2003

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. The functions of the President of submitting certain recurring reports to the Congress are assigned as follows:

(a) The Secretary of State shall submit the following reports:

1. Report on Kosovo Peacekeeping, consistent with section 1213 of Public Law 106-398;

2. Report on Bosnia and U.S. Forces in NATO-Led Stabilization Force (SFOR), consistent with section 7(b) of Public Law 105-174 and section 1203(a) of Public Law 105-261;

3. Report on Partnership for Peace Developments, consistent with section 514 of Public Law 103-236 (22 U.S.C. 1928 note);

4. Report on U.S. Military Personnel and U.S. Civilian Contractors in Colombia, consistent with section 3204(f) of Public Law 106-246;

5. Report on Nuclear Nonproliferation, consistent with section 601(a) of Public Law 95-242, as amended by Public Law 103-236 (22 U.S.C. 3281(a));

6. Report on Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute, consistent with section 620C(c) of Public Law 87-195, as amended by Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c));

7. Report on Peacekeeping, consistent with section 4 of Public Law 79-264, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287b);

8. Report on Proposed Refugee Admissions, consistent with section 207(d)(1) of Public Law 96-212 (8 U.S.C. 1157(d)(1));

9. Report on Continued Compliance With the Provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, consistent with sections 402(b) and 409(b) of Public Law 93-618, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2432(b), 2439(b));

10. Report Regarding Conditions in Burma and U.S. Policy Toward Burma, consistent with section 570(d) of Public Law 104-208;