

None of us will ever forget that week when one era ended and another began. On September the 14th, 2001, I stood in the ruins of the Twin Towers. It's a day that I'll never forget. There were workers in hardhats yelling at me at the top of their lungs, "Whatever it takes." I remember trying to console people as best I could, and a guy grabbed me by the arm, and he said, "Do not let me down." Every day since that day, I wake up trying to figure out how better to protect our country. I will never relent in defending America, whatever it takes.

Four years ago, as I traveled your great State asking for the vote, I made a pledge that if you gave me a chance to serve, I would uphold the dignity and the honor of the office to which I had been elected. With your help, with your hard work, I will do so for 4 more years.

Thanks for coming. God bless. I appreciate you all. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:33 a.m. at Lehigh Parkway. In his remarks, he referred to Senator Zell Miller of Georgia, who made the keynote address at the Republican National Convention; Charles W. Dent, candidate for Congress in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi; David Kay, former CIA Special Advisor for Strategy Regarding Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs; Prime Minister Ayad Allawi of the Iraqi Interim Government; and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan.

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.

September 25

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the evening, the President participated in a debate preparation session.

September 26

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response Mike Brown to discuss recovery efforts in Florida in response to Hurricane Jeanne. He also had a telephone conversation with Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida to discuss recovery efforts.

Also during the day, the President participated in a debate preparation session.

The President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Jeanne beginning on September 24 and continuing.

September 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and a briefing on Tropical Storm Jeanne.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Springfield, OH. Upon his arrival in the afternoon, he began a bus tour.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Xenia, OH, and then to West Chester, OH, where he concluded his bus tour. Later, he traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, arriving in the evening.

September 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

During the day, the President participated in a debate preparation session.

September 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Lake Wales, FL, arriving in the afternoon. In Lake Wales, he and Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida toured an orange grove damaged by the recent hurricanes.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Miami, FL.

September 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then traveled to Stuart, FL. Later, he returned to Miami, FL.

In the evening, the President traveled to Coral Gables, FL. Later, he returned to Miami, FL.

The President declared a major disaster in Kansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes on August 27–30.

October 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Allentown, PA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Cheryl Hornung.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Manchester, NH, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Paul Freeman. At the McIntyre Ski Area in Manchester, he participated in a Victory 2004 rally.

Later in the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ronald Rosenfeld to be a Director on the Board of Directors of the Federal Housing Finance Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Butler to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Robin Cook, Charles L. Glazer, and Peter S. Watson to be members of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

The President announced his intention to appoint David Wayne Anderson, Cynthia R. Church, and Soyna E. Medina as members of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program: John K. Andrews, Jr.; Jim Edgar; Lynette Boggs McDonald; and Lyn Bracewell Phillips.

The President announced his intention to appoint Scott Wallace (Chairman), C. Martin Harris, and William W. Stead as members of the Commission on Systemic Interoperability.

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 September 26

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Florida

Released September 27

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Fact sheet: Responding to Hurricanes Ivan and Jeanne

Released September 28

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released September 29

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released September 30

Statement by the Press Secretary on the signing of the Joint Verification Mechanism and the Memorandum of Intent on Regional Security in the Great Lakes of Africa

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Millennium Challenge Corporation's designation of seven countries eligible for the 2004 Threshold Program

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Kansas