

Message on the Observance of Independence Day, 2005

July 1, 2005

Since July 4, 1776, Americans have experienced freedom's power to overcome tyranny, inspire hope in times of trial, and turn the creative gifts of men and women to the pursuits of peace. Across generations, our Nation has defended and advanced liberty.

The words of our Founding Fathers first guided a country of 4 million souls, yet they put large events in motion. When the Liberty Bell sounded at the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence, one who witnessed the birth of freedom in our country said, "It rang as if it meant something." In our time it means something still. America continues to proclaim liberty throughout the world, and we remain a country full of hope and promise where opportunity thrives, where all stand equal before the law, and where our freedoms are celebrated.

Americans live in freedom because of the enduring power of our ideals. In the midst of World War II, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt reminded our troops that our Nation believes in the "right to liberty under God—for all peoples and races and groups and nations, everywhere in the world." Today, a new generation of Americans continues to defend our Nation and spread freedom. On this Fourth of July, we honor the brave men and women of our military, and their families, and we express our gratitude for their courage, dedication to duty, and love of country.

Laura and I send our best wishes to all Americans on Independence Day. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Memorandum on Assignment of Reporting Function

July 1, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Assignment of Reporting Function

My memorandum on "Assignment of Reporting Functions under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004" of April 21, 2005, is amended by striking "7119(a)" and inserting in lieu thereof "7120."

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

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.

June 25

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

June 26

In the afternoon, the President attended a White House tee-ball game on the South Lawn.

June 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, on the South Lawn, he participated in a photo opportunity with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Motorcycle Escort Officers.

In the afternoon, in the Old Family Dining Room, the President had a working lunch with Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany. Later, he had a meeting with members of the Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security.

Later in the afternoon, in the East Room, the President participated in a photo opportunity with the 2005 Presidential Scholars.

During the day, the President received the 90-day report on the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez, and Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff.

June 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he had a breakfast meeting with congressional leaders to discuss legislative priorities.

In the afternoon, the President met with Republican Members of the House of Representatives to discuss the Central American-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement. Later, he traveled to Fort Bragg, NC, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Jim Stitt, Jr.

Later in the afternoon, at the Watters Center/Chaplain's House, the President met with family members of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong of Singapore to the White House on July 12.

The President announced his intention to nominate Phillip Jackson Bell to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness.

The President announced his intention to nominate Susan Parker Bodine to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced his intention to nominate John Hillen to be Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Darryl W. Jackson to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce (Export Enforcement).

The President announced his intention to nominate David H. McCormick to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gillian A. Milovanovic to be Ambassador to Macedonia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Retzer to be Ambassador to Tanzania.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ronald M. Sega to be Under Secretary of the Air Force.

The President announced his intention to nominate Josette Sheeran Shiner to be Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eric M. Thorson to be Inspector General of the Small Business Administration.

June 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing followed by a National Security Council meeting. Later, in the Situation Room, he participated in a National Security Council briefing on the report of the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction.

In the afternoon, the President participated in an interview with ITV of the United Kingdom for later broadcast. Later, he met with Lt. Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward, Senior United States Security Coordinator, and James D. Wolfensohn, Quartet Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a signing ceremony for the Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Act of 2005.

The President declared a major disaster in Maine and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, snow melt, and ice jams on March 29–May 3.

June 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced the nomination of John O. Agwunobi to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Health.

The President announced the nomination of James Cain to be Ambassador to Denmark.

The President announced the nomination of Keith E. Eastin to be Assistant Secretary

of the Army for Installations and Environment.

The President announced the nomination of A.J. Eggenberger to be a member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The President announced the nomination of Terrell Halaska to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Cultural Affairs.

The President announced the nomination of Kim Kendrick to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

The President announced the nomination of Ronald E. Meisburg to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

The President announced the nomination of Robert A. Mosbacher, Jr. to be president of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

The President announced the nomination of Julie L. Myers to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement).

The President announced the nomination of Patrick M. O'Brien to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Finance.

The President announced the nomination of Peter Schaumber to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

The President announced the nomination of Kristen Silverberg to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jendayi Elizabeth Frazer to be Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark Langdale to be Ambassador to Costa Rica.

The President announced the designation of Joseph Timothy Kelliher as Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The President announced the designation of Stephen D. Glavan as Acting Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

The President announced the designation of Cynthia A. Glassman as Acting Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The President announced the designation of Arthur F. Rosenfeld as Acting General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

July 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he participated in a photo opportunity and meeting with members of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and received the society's Distinguished Patriot Award.

Also in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President had a telephone conversation with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to discuss her resignation. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Prime Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al Sabah of Kuwait.

In the afternoon, in the Old Family Dining Room, the President had a working lunch with Prime Minister Sabah. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Senator Patrick J. Leahy, ranking member, and Senator Arlen Specter, chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to discuss the U.S. Supreme Court vacancy. He also left a telephone message for Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid concerning the Supreme Court vacancy.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and visited with U.S. military personnel wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan and their family members, and he presented Purple Hearts to some of the soldiers. Later, he traveled to Camp David, MD.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted June 28

Phillip Jackson Bell, of Georgia, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness, vice Diane K. Morales, resigned.