

President Bush. Man, you represented the entire press corps there; that's good. [Laughter] We talked about energy, and we talked about our need to work through the recent history that we've had together on dealing with proliferation matters.

Secondly, in terms of Kashmir and Palestine, Kashmir issue will be solved when two leaders decide to solve it. And we want to help. The United States can't force nations to reach an agreement just because we want there to be an agreement. Lasting agreements occur when leaders of nations say, "Let's get the past behind us, and let's move forward."

I am encouraged by the meetings that the President and the Prime Minister of India have had. It is an indication that there is desire at the leadership level to solve this long-standing problem.

Leadership is also going to be required between Israel and Palestine. We, of course, can help and will help. But it's important for you to understand that we cannot impose peace. We can help create the conditions for peace to occur. We can lay out vision. We can talk to world leaders, and we do. We can provide aid to help institutional building so that a democracy can flourish.

But, ultimately, peace, long-standing peace depends upon the will of leaders. I'm impressed by this President's will to get something done in Kashmir. He and I have talked about this issue in the past. He has said he was going to reach out to the Prime Minister of India, and he has. And our hope is that this process continues forward.

I asked the President, just like I would ask the Prime Minister of India, what can we do to help. What would you like the United States to do to facilitate an agreement? Would you like us to get out of the way? Would you like us not to show up? Would you like us to be actively involved? How can we help you, if you so desire, achieve peace? And that's the role of the United States, as far as I'm concerned.

President Musharraf. Thank you. I think I've already answered. We've had far-reaching discussion encompassing bilateral issues, regional, and international. I think we have general consensus on all issues.

President Bush. Thank you, Mr. President. Good job.

President Musharraf. Thank you.

President Bush. Buy the book. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 10:21 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Sehba Musharraf, wife of President Musharraf; Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India; President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan; and former Deputy Secretary of State Richard L. Armitage.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of Kenneth Wainstein To Be Assistant Attorney General for National Security at the Department of Justice *September 22, 2006*

I am pleased the Senate has confirmed Kenneth Wainstein as the first Assistant Attorney General for National Security at the Department of Justice. As head of this new division, Ken will bring together our national security, counterterrorism, counterespionage, and foreign intelligence surveillance litigation under one Assistant Attorney General. Ken is an effective leader, who will play an important role in our efforts to combat terrorism.

Ken's confirmation fulfills one of the critical recommendations of the WMD Commission and further strengthens our ability to protect all Americans.

I urge the Senate to give all my nominees a prompt up-or-down vote.

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 16

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.