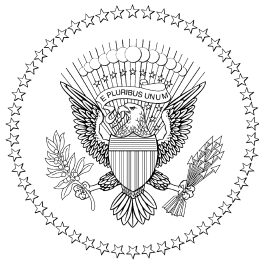


Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



Monday, August 6, 2007
Volume 43—Number 31
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Contents

Addresses and Remarks

See also Meetings With Foreign Leaders
Cabinet meeting—1038
Counterterrorism team, meeting—1039
Radio addresses—1027, 1041

Bill Signings

Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11
Commission Act of 2007, statement—1040

Communications to Congress

Blocking property of persons undermining the
sovereignty of Lebanon or its democratic
processes and institutions, message—1037
Department of Defense supplemental budget,
letter transmitting revision request—1035

Executive Orders

Blocking Property of Persons Undermining
the Sovereignty of Lebanon or Its
Democratic Processes and Institutions—
1035

Interviews With the News Media

News conference with Prime Minister Gordon
Brown of the United Kingdom at Camp
David, MD—1028

Meetings With Foreign Leaders

United Kingdom, Prime Minister Brown—
1028

Statements by the President

See Bill Signings

Supplementary Materials

Acts approved by the President—1045
Checklist of White House press releases—
1044
Digest of other White House
announcements—1041
Nominations submitted to the Senate—1043

Editor's Note: The President was at Camp David, MD, on August 3, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, August 3, 2007

The President's Radio Address

July 28, 2007

Good morning. This week, I visited with troops at Charleston Air Force Base. These fine men and women are serving courageously to protect our country against dangerous enemies. The terrorist network that struck America on September the 11th wants to strike our country again. To stop them, our military, law enforcement, and intelligence professionals need the best possible information about who the terrorists are, where they are, and what they are planning.

One of the most important ways we can gather that information is by monitoring terrorist communications. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, also known as FISA, provides a critical legal foundation that allows our intelligence community to collect this information while protecting the civil liberties of Americans. But this important law was written in 1978, and it addressed the technologies of that era. This law is badly out of date, and Congress must act to modernize it.

Today, we face sophisticated terrorists who use disposable cell phones and the Internet to communicate with each other, recruit operatives, and plan attacks on our country. Technologies like these were not available when FISA was passed nearly 30 years ago, and FISA has not kept up with new technological developments. As a result, our Nation is hampered in its ability to gain the vital intelligence we need to keep the American people safe. In his testimony to Congress in May, Mike McConnell, the Director of National Intelligence, put it this way: We are, quote, "significantly burdened in capturing overseas communications of foreign terrorists planning to conduct attacks inside the United States."

To fix this problem, my administration has proposed a bill that would modernize the FISA statute. This legislation is the product

of months of discussion with members of both parties in the House and the Senate, and it includes four key reforms. First, it brings FISA up to date with the changes in communications technology that have taken place over the past three decades. Second, it seeks to restore FISA to its original focus on protecting the privacy interests of people inside the United States, so we don't have to obtain court orders to effectively collect foreign intelligence about foreign targets located in foreign locations. Third, it allows the government to work more efficiently with private sector entities like communications providers, whose help is essential. And fourth, it will streamline administrative processes so our intelligence community can gather foreign intelligence more quickly and more effectively while protecting civil liberties.

Our intelligence community warns that under the current statute, we are missing a significant amount of foreign intelligence that we should be collecting to protect our country. Congress needs to act immediately to pass this bill, so that our national security professionals can close intelligence gaps and provide critical warning time for our country.

As the recent National Intelligence Estimate reported, America is in a heightened-threat environment. Reforming FISA will help our intelligence professionals address those threats, and they should not have to wait any longer. Congress will soon be leaving for its August recess. I ask Republicans and Democrats to work together to pass FISA modernization now, before they leave town. Our national security depends on it.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7 a.m. on July 27 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 28. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on the morning of July 28 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

**The President's News Conference
With Prime Minister Gordon Brown
of the United Kingdom at Camp
David, Maryland**

July 30, 2007

President Bush. Welcome. Thank you. It's good to have you here. So everybody is wondering whether or not the Prime Minister and I were able to find common ground, to get along, to have a meaningful discussion. And the answer is, absolutely. You know, he probably wasn't sure what to expect from me, and I kind of had a sense that—of the kind of person I'd be dealing with. I would describe Gordon Brown as a principled man who really wants to get something done. In other words, in my discussions with him last night, we spent about 2 hours over dinner, just alone. We dismissed the rest of the delegations to the bowling alley, I think. [*Laughter*] And as Josh Bolten said, it's the Ryder Cup of bowling. I think the trophy was left for Great Britain, if I'm not mistaken.

But we had a really casual and good discussion, and we'd be glad to share—I'll be glad to share some of the insights here and then—but the notion of America and Britain sharing values is very important—and that we have an obligation, it seems to me, to work for freedom and justice around the world. And I found a person who shares that vision and who understands the call. After all, we're writing the initial chapters of what I believe is a great ideological struggle between those of us who do believe in freedom and justice and human rights and human dignity and coldblooded killers who will kill innocent people to achieve their objectives.

One of the great calling that we have here in the beginning of the 21st century is to protect our own people. And so we spent a fair amount of time making sure that our systems are properly aligned so as we can share information to protect our citizens from this kind of brutal group of people who really would like to see us driven from parts of the world so they can impose their ideology. And I do congratulate the Prime Minister for his

steady and quick response in the face of a significant threat to the homeland. You've proved your worthiness as a leader, and I thank you for that.

We also recognize that if you're involved with an ideological struggle, then you defeat that one ideology with a more hopeful ideology, and that's why it's very important for us to defend and stand with these young democracies in Afghanistan and Iraq. I appreciate very much the British commitment in Afghanistan and Iraq. I appreciate the bravery of the soldiers. Obviously I mourn the loss of any life. I think it's very important for us to make it clear to those who are in harm's way that these missions will be driven not by local politics but by conditions on the ground, because success in Afghanistan and Iraq will be an integral part of defeating an enemy and helping people realize the great blessings of liberty as the alternative to an ideology of darkness that spreads its murder to achieve its objectives.

We talked about the tyranny of poverty, the tyranny of lack of education. And I appreciate the Prime Minister's strong commitment to press forward on working together dealing with disease, whether it be HIV/AIDS or malaria. He's got a strong commitment to helping people realize the blessings of education. I thank you very much for that vision.

He also understands what I know, that if we're really interested in eradicating poverty, it's important for us to be successful in the Doha round. Gordon Brown brought some interesting suggestions on the way forward. He is optimistic that we can conclude the Doha round, as am I. And I want to thank you for strategizing as to how to get that done in a way that is beneficial for all of us.

We talked about the Holy Land. We talked about Darfur. We had a good discussion as to how to keep this world engaged in the atrocities—I've called it a genocide—taking place in Darfur, and I want to thank you for your leadership on that issue.

And so we had a good, relaxed, meaningful discussion over dinner, and then picked it up at breakfast. And I'm pleased you're here, and I'm pleased to report that this relationship will be a constructive and strategic relationship for the good of our peoples.

Welcome.

Prime Minister Brown. Thank you very much. Well, can I say, Mr. President, it's a great honor for me to come, within a few weeks of becoming Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, here to Camp David, to have been invited by you to have the discussions that we've just concluded, and to be able to affirm and to celebrate the historic partnership of shared purpose between our two countries. And I believe it's a partnership that's founded on more than common interests and more than just a common history; it's a partnership founded and driven forward by our shared values—what Winston Churchill, who was the first British Prime Minister to visit Camp David, called the joint inheritance of liberty, a belief in opportunity for all, a belief in the dignity of every human being.

And I've told President Bush that it's in Britain's national interest that with all our energies we work together to address all the great challenges that we face also together: nuclear proliferation, climate change, global poverty and prosperity, the Middle East peace process, which we've discussed, and most immediately, international terrorism. Terrorism is not a cause; it is a crime, and it is a crime against humanity. And there should be no safe haven and no hiding place for those who practice terrorist violence or preach terrorist extremism.

Ladies and gentlemen, in Iraq we have duties to discharge and responsibilities to keep, in support of the democratically elected Government and in support of the explicit will of the international community, expressed most recently through U.N. Resolution 1723.

Our aim, like the United States, is, step by step, to move control to the Iraqi authorities, to the Iraqi Government, and to its security forces as progress is made. And we've moved from combat to overwatch in three of the four Provinces for which we the British have security responsibility. We intend to move to overwatch in the fourth Province, and that decision will be made on the military advice of our commanders on the ground. Whatever happens, we will make a full statement to Parliament when it returns.

Our aim, as is the aim of the United States Government, is threefold: security for the

Iraqi people, political reconciliation, and that the Iraqis have a stake in the future. And I can say also that I have proposed to the Iraqi Government the offer of new finance for Basra and the surrounding areas where we have responsibility, that we invite the Iraqis to set up, with our support, a Basra economic development agency, so that there are jobs, businesses, the chance of prosperity, and economic hope.

I strongly support President Bush's initiative, a bold initiative to make early progress in the Middle East peace process. Afghanistan is the frontline against terrorism, and as we have done twice in the last year, where there are more forces needed to back up the coalition and NATO effort, they have been provided by the United Kingdom.

On Iran, we are in agreement that sanctions are working. And the next stage we are ready to move towards is to toughen the sanctions with a further U.N. resolution.

Darfur is the greatest humanitarian disaster the world faces today, and I've agreed with the President that we step up our pressure to end the violence that has displaced 2 million people, made 4 million hungry and reliant on food aid, and murdered 200,000 people. We have agreed on expediting the U.N. resolution for a joint U.N.-African Union peace force. We're agreed on encouragement for early peace talks, a call to cease violence on the ground, an end to aerial bombing of civilians, and support for economic development if this happens and further sanctions if this does not happen.

Across developing countries, 30,000 children die needlessly every day, and we support the President's pathbreaking initiatives on HIV/AIDS and on malaria. And we are agreed to support a new partnership that brings together public and private sectors, faith groups and civil society to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

In a world trade agreement lies the difference between progress to a more open global trading economy and a retreat into protectionism. In recent days I've been able to talk to Chancellor Merkel, President Barroso, Prime Minister Socrates, President Lula, President Mbeki, and Prime Minister Singh, as well as the Trade Negotiator Pascal Lamy. And the President and I are one in

seeking an early conclusion to a trade agreement. We agreed that contact between leaders will be stepped up so that we are ready to quickly finalize an agreement in the near future.

We also agreed on the importance of the issue of climate change, which needs to be tackled in the context of sustainable development and in the context of energy security. We support the framework of meetings over the coming months to address this issue and move forward the agenda agreed at this year's G-8 in Germany.

Mr. President, we have had full and frank discussions. We've had the capacity and the ability to meet yesterday evening for 2 hours to discuss person to person some of the great issues of our time. You were kind enough also to arrange talks this morning where we continued the discussion on the issues that I've just talked about, and I'm very grateful to you for your hospitality and for the chance for our two countries, with our great shared histories, to continue to work together on these great issues.

I think we're agreed that all challenges can best be met when together the United Kingdom and the United States work in a partnership that I believe will strengthen in the years to come. And I thank you for both your invitation and for the chance to talk about these great issues. Thank you, Mr. President.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Two questions a side. Ben [Ben Feller, Associated Press].

Progress in Iraq

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Your own military commander suggests that in Iraq, the Iraqi forces are not nearly ready to take over security for their own country, and that U.S. troops will need to stay in the region for many months if not years. Are you prepared to pass on the fate of the war to the next President?

And, Mr. Prime Minister, if I may, what do you see as the biggest mistakes in the management of the war, and what do you propose to do to correct them?

President Bush. David Petraeus, the general on the ground, will be bringing his recommendations back to the Congress on or about September the 15th. And I think it's

going to be very important for all of us to wait for him to report. And the reason it's important is, is that I believe that the decisions on the way forward in Iraq must be made with a military recommendation as an integral part of it. And therefore, I don't want to prejudge what David is going to say.

I have said this is going to take a long time, just like this ideological—in Iraq, just like the ideological struggle is going to take a long time. And so I look forward to David's report, and then we'll respond accordingly. There has been some notable progress—Anbar Province being such a place where there's bottom-up reconciliation, where people are rejecting this Al Qaida vision of the world and saying, there's a better way forward.

There are still setbacks, obviously. We've got these suiciders that are trying to foment sectarian violence. But, Ben, I would ask you and the Congress to wait, to do what I'm doing, which is wait until David to come back and make his report. And I think you'll find it will be considered and based upon the evidence there on the ground.

Prime Minister Brown. You asked about the difficulties we've faced, and a lot has happened over the last period of time. I think the difficulties include the—getting political reconciliation within Iraq itself, moving forward the reconstruction and the time it has taken to do so.

But I think the one thing that I'm pleased about is that Iraq is now building up its own security forces; it's now building up its own military; and it's now building up its own police. So we've got to a situation where there are perhaps 300,000 people who are in the Iraqi security and policing forces.

In Basra and in the four Provinces that we're dealing with, security forces have built up over the last few years now to around 30,000 people. It's in that context where we can then achieve what we want to do, which is to pass security over to the Iraqi people themselves, to pass it over to the elected Iraqi Government, and of course to local Provincial control.

And one of the encouraging things that's happened over the last few months, indeed the last year and more, is that we've been able to pass the control of the three of the

four Provinces for which we've got responsibility back to Iraqi hands. And of course the issue in Basra, which is the largest Province, is the point at which we can do what we want to do, which is to have local people and local army and local police in charge of the security there.

So that is the challenge that we face over this next period of time: that Iraq itself becomes more responsible for its own security; that we are able to pass control of the Province both to elected politicians and to the security services; and we're able to combine that with the people of Iraq themselves having a stake in the future.

So, yes, there have been problems, but, yes, also, when you look at the four Provinces for which we've got responsibility, we can see that we're able to move control back to the Iraqi people in three. And there's a chance of being able to do that in the fourth as a result of the buildup of the security forces.

Nick [Nick Robinson, BBC News].

President Bush. Gosh, still hanging around. [Laughter]

Q. Good afternoon, Mr. President. [Laughter] It's very nice to be back.

President Bush. Yes, it is.

United Kingdom-U.S. Relations on Iraq

Q. Mr. President, you trusted Tony Blair not, in your phrase, to cut and run from Iraq. After your talks, do you believe you can trust Gordon Brown in the same way?

And Prime Minister, you talked of Afghanistan being the frontline in the struggle against terror, not Iraq. Do you believe that British troops in Iraq are part of the struggle against terrorism or, as many people now believe, making that harder, not easier, to win?

Prime Minister Brown. Well, perhaps I should deal with it first and then pass on to you, President.

In Iraq, you're dealing with Sunni-Shi'a violence; you're dealing with the involvement of Iran; but you're certainly dealing with a large number of Al Qaida terrorists. And I think I described Afghanistan as the first line in the battle against the Taliban, and of course the Taliban in Afghanistan is what we are dealing with in the Provinces for which we've got responsibility, and doing so with some success.

There is no doubt, therefore, that Al Qaida is operating in Iraq. There is no doubt that we've had to take very strong measures against them, and there is no doubt that the Iraqi security forces have got to be strong enough to be able to withstand not just the violence that has been between the Sunni and the Shi'a population and the Sunni insurgency but also Al Qaida itself.

So one of the tests that the military commanders will have on the ground, in the Province for which we've got direct responsibility now and before we move from combat to overwatch, is whether we are strong enough and they are strong enough to enable them to stand up against that threat.

President Bush. There's no doubt in my mind that Gordon Brown understands that failure in Iraq would be a disaster for the security of our own countries; that failure in Iraq would embolden extremist movements throughout the Middle East; that failure in Iraq would basically say to people sitting on the fence around the region that Al Qaida is powerful enough to drive great countries like Great Britain and America out of Iraq before the mission is done. He understands that violence could spill out across the region, that a country like Iran would become emboldened.

So there's no doubt in my mind, he understands the stakes of the struggle. And there's no doubt in my mind that he will keep me abreast of his military commanders' recommendations based upon conditions on the ground. As he accurately noted, the Brits have been involved in four of the Provinces; transfer has taken place in three of the four. Why?—because progress was made. This is a results-oriented world, and the results were such that Great Britain was able to transfer responsibility. That's what we want to do. We want to be able to be in a position where we can achieve results on the ground so that we can be in a different posture.

The problem was, last fall, we weren't going to be able to transfer because conditions on the ground were getting out of control. And so I made the decision to send more troops in, understanding the consequences of failure if we did not do so. In other words, I said, I think if we don't send troops, it's more likely we'll fail. And the consequences

of failure would be disaster for Great Britain and the United States, something this Prime Minister understands.

The idea of somehow achieving results, and therefore, this is a change of attitude, just simply doesn't—I just don't agree with that. I find him to be resolved and firm and understanding about the stakes in this series of initial struggles in this war against extremists and radicals. And the challenge for Gordon and me is to write a chapter, the first chapter in this struggle that will lead to success, and that's exactly what we're determined to do.

Rutenberg [Jim Rutenberg, New York Times], today's your birthday? How old are you?

Q. Thirty-eight.

Prime Minister Brown. My goodness.

President Bush. Here you are—amazing country, Gordon. The guy is under 40 years old, asking me and you questions. It's a beautiful sight. [Laughter]

Q. Forty is the new 30, Mr. President.

President Bush. It's a beautiful sight. [Laughter]

Prime Minister Brown. Six in my cabinet are under 40.

President Bush. Are they? [Laughter]

Prime Minister Brown. Yes.

Q. Or 40 is the new 20.

President Bush. You must be feeling damn old then?

Prime Minister Brown. Absolutely. [Laughter]

President Bush. Yes, Jim.

War on Terror

Q. Mr. President, the Prime Minister has referred to terrorism as, quote, "a crime," and he's referred to it in part as a law enforcement issue. So for you, I'm wondering, does that underscore any sort of philosophical difference when your 2004 campaign took issue with somewhat similar descriptions from John Kerry?

And, Mr. Prime Minister, I've heard a lot about how your approach to the United States will be the same as that of your predecessor, but how will it differ?

President Bush. Yes. Look, people who kill innocent men, women, and children to achieve political objectives are evil; that's

what I think. I don't think there's any need to negotiate with them. I don't think there's any need to hope that they'll change. They are coldblooded killers, and we better be clear-eyed when we're dealing with them.

And this Prime Minister, right in the beginning of his office, got a taste of what it means to be in a world with these people that would come and attempt to kill innocent civilians of his country. And he handled it well.

But we're dealing with a variety of methodologies to deal with them: One is intelligence; one is law enforcement; and one is military. We got to use all assets at disposal to find them and bring them to justice before they hurt our people again.

In the long run, the way to defeat these people is through a competing ideology, see. And what's interesting about this struggle—and this is what I was paying very careful attention to when Gordon was speaking—is, does he understand it's an ideological struggle? And he does.

As he said to me, "It's akin to the cold war." And it is; except the difference this time is, we have an enemy using asymmetrical warfare to try to affect our vision, to try to shake our will. They'll kill innocent women and children so it gets on the TV screens, so that we say it's not worth it; let's just back off. The death they cause makes it—maybe we just ought to let them have their way. And that's the great danger facing the world in which we live, and he gets it.

Now, he can answer his own—your question. What's the second half? I talked too long for—

Q. How would your approach differ from that of your predecessor? And while we're on the subject, also—

President Bush. Wait a minute—[laughter]—it doesn't work that way.

Q. It's his birthday.

President Bush. Yes, Mr. Birthday Boy is taking latitude here. [Laughter]

United Kingdom-U.S. Relations/War on Terror

Q. Do you have the same philosophy as the President in terms of terrorism? So it's a two-pronged.

Prime Minister Brown. Absolutely.

President Bush. What do you expect the answer to be——

Prime Minister Brown. Absolutely.

President Bush. ——Rutenberg? Come on, man.

Prime Minister Brown. And let me just stress that we're in a generation-long battle against terrorism, against Al Qaida-inspired terrorism, and this is a battle for which we can give no quarter. It's a battle that's got to be fought in military, diplomatic, intelligence, security, policing, and ideological terms. And we have to face groups of terrorists operating in Britain. And other countries around the world have seen—perhaps, in 17 countries—terrorist attacks over the last few years. When we in Britain have faced 15 of our own since September of 2001 and, of course, when America itself faced in September 2001 and showed such bravery, resilience, and courage in standing up against terrorism then, we know we are in a common struggle. And we know we have to work together, and we know we've got to use all means to deal with it.

So we are at one in fighting the battle against terrorism. And that struggle is one that we will fight with determination and with resilience, and—right across the world.

You asked about the new Government in the United Kingdom. What I would say is this: Every generation faces new challenges, and the challenges that we face in 2007 are not the same as the challenges that we faced as a Government when Tony Blair started in 1997. Then the challenges in Britain were about stability, about employment, about public services. Then the challenges around the world were not seen at that point as the challenges against international terrorism.

Today, in 2007, we see the challenges are radically different from what they were 10 years ago. We have the climate change challenge we've just been discussing, which wasn't one that was seen in exactly the same way a few years ago. And that will lead to the work that we've got to do together—and involving China and India in particular—to deal with the energy issues and including issues of energy security that we face.

We have the challenge of security and terrorism. We have the challenge that we now know in Africa, Darfur, a challenge that

we've got to meet immediately to make sure that famine does not afflict millions of people in that part of Africa. And of course we have the challenge that we can see now, where there are opportunities as well as difficulties, in the Middle East peace process. And that, of course, is a challenge that Secretary of State Rice is—and I'm glad she is here today and has joined our discussions—is going on only today to the Middle East to take up.

So the challenges are different. We will deal with them by being a government of opportunity and security for all. But the challenges, of course, are new as we face the next decade. And these are challenges that we will face and, I believe, America will face with exactly the same resilience, courage, and professionalism.

Adam [Adam Boulton, Sky News].

United Kingdom-U.S. Relations

Q. Thank you. A question from Sky News. Mr. Brown's new formulation for what we used to call the special relationship is Britain's single most important bilateral relationship. I wonder if I could ask him what precisely that means, whether it works the other way for the United States, in terms of their bilateral relationships. And also, Mr. President, what you think has actually changed with the arrival of Gordon Brown instead of Tony Blair?

President Bush. Besides toothpaste? [Laughter] Do you want to—I'll start. Look, I think any time you share values the way we share values, it makes it easy to have strategic conversations; it makes it easy to be able to have common ground on which to deal with these problems. You just listed off a lot of problems. I happen to view them as great opportunities to begin to put conditions in place so that the world looks fundamentally different 50 years from now.

But I would say that the relationship between Great Britain and America is our most important bilateral relationship, for a lot of reasons—trade. Great Britain has been attacked; we've been attacked, which caused us to lash up our intelligence services like never before. We have common interests throughout the world.

But it's an important relationship primarily because we think the same. We believe in

freedom and justice as fundamentals of life. There's no doubt in my mind that freedom is universal; that freedom is a gift to each man, woman, and child on the face of the Earth; and that with freedom comes peace. And there's no doubt in my mind, those of us who live under free societies have an obligation to work together to promote it.

And the man I listened to shares that same sense of morality and that same sense of obligation, not to free others, but to create the conditions so others can realize the blessings of freedom. We can't impose freedom, but we can eliminate roadblocks to freedom and to—allow free societies to develop. And it's really hard work, you know? There's a lot of cynics saying, "How dare they; how dare they impose U.S. or Great British values." And what I found was a man who understands that these aren't Great British and U.S. values; these are universal values.

And so what was your question? [*Laughter*]

United Kingdom-U.S. Relations

Q. What's changed?

President Bush. Oh, what's changed? He's a Scotsman, kind of a—he's not the dour Scotsman that you described him, or the awkward Scotsman. He's actually the humorous Scotsman, the guy that—we actually were able to relax and to share some thoughts. I was very interested in his family life. He's a man who has suffered unspeakable tragedy, and instead of that weakening his soul, strengthened his soul.

I was impressed, and I am confident that we'll be able to keep our relationship strong, healthy, vibrant, and that there will be constant communications as we deal with these problems. As I said, he's a problem-solver. And that's what we need as partners. I mean, we've got a lot of problems we're dealing with, and we can reach solutions. He's a glass-half-full man, not a glass-half-empty guy, you know? Some of these world leaders say, "Oh, the problems are so significant; let us retreat; let us not take them on; they're too tough." That's not Gordon Brown. His attitude is, I see a problem; let's work together to solve it. And for that, I'm grateful.

Prime Minister Brown. What President Bush has said is both very compassionate and

reflects the conversation we had about a whole series of issues that we can deal with together.

I think your understanding, if I may say so, of Scotland was enhanced by the fact that you went to Scotland, you told me, at the age of 14, and had to sit through very long Presbyterian Church services—[*laughter*—] in which you didn't understand a word of what the minister was actually saying. [*Laughter*] So I think you came to a better understanding of the Scottish contribution to the United Kingdom from that.

Adam, you asked about the single most important bilateral relationship for Britain, and I think President Bush has answered that, that that is the view of the United States as well. Call it the special relationship; call it, as Churchill did, the joint inheritance; call it when we meet as a form of homecoming, as President Reagan did—then you see the strength of this relationship, as I've said, is not just built on the shared problems that we have to deal with together or on the shared history that is built, as President Bush has just said, on shared values. And these are values that he rightly says are universal. They're the belief in the dignity of the individual, the freedom and liberty that we can bring to the world, and a belief that everyone—everyone—should have the chance of opportunity.

And I do see this relationship strengthening in the years to come, because it is the values that we believe in that I think will have the most impact as we try to solve the problems that we face right across the world. And in a sense, the battle that we are facing with international terrorism is a battle between our values, which stress the dignity of every individual, and those who would maim and murder, irrespective of faith, indifferent to human life, often simply for propaganda effect, and of course with devastating effects, both on the communities that they claim to represent and the whole world.

So I want to stress the values that we hold in common, not in an abstract way, but in a very positive and concrete way, because I think the more we debate these issues about how the world would be organized to face international terrorism, the more we come back to the values that unite decent, hard-

working people right across the world—whatever their faith, whatever their country, whatever their continent.

And it's been a privilege to be able to have these discussions with the President about how we can deal with all these challenges by applying not just our values, but applying the strength that comes from the strong relationship that exists between our two countries.

President Bush. Good job. Thank you.

Prime Minister Brown. Thank you very much.

President Bush. Glad you all are here. You'd better cover up your bald head. Getting hot out here. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 11:46 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA, commanding general, Multi-National Force—Iraq. Prime Minister Brown referred to Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany; President Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of the European Commission; Prime Minister Jose Socrates of Portugal; President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil; President Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki of South Africa; Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India; Director-General Pascal Lamy of the World Trade Organization; and former Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting a Request for Fiscal Year 2008 Department of Defense Supplemental Budget Revisions
July 31, 2007

Dear Madam Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed revisions to the FY 2008 Budget request for Department of Defense operations in the Global War on Terror. This request would provide the additional resources necessary to maximize the production of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and rapidly field this capability to our servicemembers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Overall, the discretionary budget authority in my FY 2008 request for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom would be increased by \$5.3 billion, for a De-

partment of Defense total of \$147.0 billion for these operations.

I hereby designate the specific proposals in the amounts requested herein as emergency requirements. This request represents urgent and essential requirements and I encourage you to take up the FY 2008 war funding, including this critical force protection funding, as soon as possible. The details of the request are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

Executive Order 13441—Blocking Property of Persons Undermining the Sovereignty of Lebanon or Its Democratic Processes and Institutions

August 1, 2007

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*) (NEA), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code,

I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, determine that the actions of certain persons to undermine Lebanon's legitimate and democratically elected government or democratic institutions, to contribute to the deliberate breakdown in the rule of law in Lebanon, including through politically motivated violence and intimidation, to reassert Syrian control or contribute to Syrian interference in Lebanon, or to infringe upon or undermine Lebanese sovereignty contribute to political and economic instability in that country and the region and constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, and I hereby declare a national emergency to deal with that threat. I hereby order:

Section 1. (a) Except to the extent provided in section 203(b)(1), (3), and (4) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(1), (3), and (4)),

or in regulations, orders, directives, or licenses that may be issued pursuant to this order, and notwithstanding any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the date of this order, all property and interests in property that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States, or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of any United States person, including any overseas branch, of the following persons are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in:

(i) any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

- (A) to have taken, or to pose a significant risk of taking, actions, including acts of violence, that have the purpose or effect of undermining Lebanon's democratic processes or institutions, contributing to the breakdown of the rule of law in Lebanon, supporting the reassertion of Syrian control or otherwise contributing to Syrian interference in Lebanon, or infringing upon or undermining Lebanese sovereignty;
- (B) to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, such actions, including acts of violence, or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order;
- (C) to be a spouse or dependent child of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order; or
- (D) to be owned or controlled by, or acting or purporting to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order.

(b) I hereby determine that the making of donations of the type of articles specified in section 203(b)(2) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(2)) by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section would seriously impair my

ability to deal with the national emergency declared in this order, and I hereby prohibit such donations as provided by paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) The prohibitions in paragraph (a) of this section include but are not limited to (i) the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order, and (ii) the receipt of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services from any such person.

Sec. 2. (a) Any transaction by a United States person or within the United States that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, or attempts to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.

(b) Any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.

Sec. 3. For the purposes of this order:

(a) the term "person" means an individual or entity;

(b) the term "entity" means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, group, subgroup, or other organization; and

(c) the term "United States person" means any United States citizen, permanent resident alien, entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States (including foreign branches), or any person in the United States.

Sec. 4. For those persons whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States, I find that, because of the ability to transfer funds or other assets instantaneously, prior notice to such persons of measures to be taken pursuant to this order would render these measures ineffectual. I therefore determine that, for these measures to be effective in addressing the national emergency declared in this order, there need be no prior notice of a listing or determination made pursuant to section 1 of this order.

Sec. 5. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is

hereby authorized to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this order. The Secretary of the Treasury may redelegate any of these functions to other officers and agencies of the United States Government, consistent with applicable law. All agencies of the United States Government are hereby directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of this order and, where appropriate, to advise the Secretary of the Treasury in a timely manner of the measures taken. The Secretary of the Treasury shall ensure compliance with those provisions of section 401 of the NEA (50 U.S.C. 1641) applicable to the Department of the Treasury in relation to this order.

Sec. 6. The Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to submit the recurring and final reports to the Congress on the national emergency declared in this order, consistent with section 401(c) of the NEA (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)) and section 204(c) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)).

Sec. 7. This order is not intended to create, nor does it create, any right, benefit, or privilege, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities, or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

George W. Bush

The White House,
August 1, 2007.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,
9:10 a.m., August 2, 2007]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 2, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on August 3.

Message to the Congress on Blocking Property of Persons Undermining the Sovereignty of Lebanon or Its Democratic Processes and Institutions

August 1, 2007

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, as amended (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order declaring a national emergency to deal with the threat in Lebanon posed by the actions of certain persons to undermine Lebanon's legitimate and democratically elected government or democratic institutions, to contribute to the deliberate breakdown in the rule of law in Lebanon, including through politically motivated violence and intimidation, to reassert Syrian control or contribute to Syrian interference in Lebanon or to infringe upon or undermine Lebanese sovereignty, contributing to political and economic instability in that country and the region. Such actions constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

This order will block the property and interests in property of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to have taken, or to pose a significant risk of taking, actions, including acts of violence, that have the purpose or effect of undermining Lebanon's democratic processes or institutions or contributing to the breakdown of the rule of law in Lebanon, supporting the reassertion of Syrian control or contributing to Syrian interference in Lebanon, or infringing upon or undermining Lebanese sovereignty. The order further authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to block the property and interests in property of those persons determined to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financing, material, logistical, or technical support for, or goods or services in support of, such actions or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order; to be a spouse or dependent child of any person whose property and interests in property are

blocked pursuant to the order; or to be owned or controlled by, or to act or purport to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order.

I delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the authority to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of my order.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

George W. Bush

The White House,
August 1, 2007.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 2.

Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting

August 2, 2007

Good morning. I just had a—I finished a Cabinet meeting. One of the things we discussed was the terrible situation there in Minneapolis. We talked about the fact that the bridge collapsed, and that we in the Federal Government must respond, and respond robustly, to help the people there not only recover but to make sure that lifeline of activity, that bridge gets rebuilt as quickly as possible.

To that end, Secretary Peters is in Minneapolis as well as Federal Highway Administrator Capka. I spoke to Governor Pawlenty and Mayor Rybak this morning. I told them that the Secretary would be there. I told them we would help with rescue efforts, but I also told them how much we are in prayer for those who suffered. And I thank our fellow—my fellow citizens for holding up those who are suffering right now in prayer.

We also talked about—in the Cabinet meeting—talked about the status of important pieces of legislation before the Congress. We spent a fair amount of time talking about the fact that how disappointed we are that Congress hasn't sent any spending bills to my

desk. By the end of this week, Members are going to be leaving for their month-long August recess. And by the time they will return, there will be less than a month before the end of the fiscal year on September the 30th, and yet they haven't passed 1 of the 12 spending bills that they're required to pass. If Congress doesn't pass the spending bills by the end of the fiscal year, Cabinet Secretaries report that their Departments may be unable to move forward with urgent priorities for our country.

This just doesn't have to be this way. The Democrats won last year's election fair and square, and now they control the calendar for bringing up bills in Congress. They need to pass each of these spending bills individually, on time, and in a fiscally responsible way.

The budget I've sent to Congress fully funds America's priorities. It increases discretionary spending by 6.9 percent. My Cabinet Secretaries assure me that this is adequate to meet the needs of our Nation.

Unfortunately, Democratic leaders in Congress want to spend far more. Their budget calls for nearly \$22 billion more in discretionary spending next year alone. These leaders have tried to downplay that figure. Yesterday one called this increase, and I quote, "a very small difference" from what I proposed. Only in Washington can \$22 billion be called a very small difference. And that difference will keep getting bigger. Over the next 5 years, it will total nearly \$205 billion in additional discretionary spending. That \$205 billion averages out to about \$112 million per day, \$4.7 million per hour, \$78,000 per minute.

Put another way, that's about \$1,300 in higher spending every second of every minute of every hour of every day of every year for the next 5 years. That's a lot of money—even for career politicians in Washington. In fact, at that pace, Democrats in Congress would have spent an extra \$300,000 since I began these remarks.

There's only one way to pay for all this new Federal spending without running up the deficit, and that is to raise your taxes. A massive tax hike is the last thing the American people need. The plan I put forward would keep your taxes low and balance the

budget within 5 years, and that is the right path for our country.

I want to thank OMB Director Rob Portman for his hard work in developing this plan. This was Rob's last Cabinet meeting. Laura and I wish him and his family well. And I call on the Senate to confirm his successor, Jim Nussle, so we can work together to keep our Government running, to keep our economy growing, and to keep our Nation strong.

Thank you for your time.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:54 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters; Gov. Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota; and Mayor R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis, MN. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks Following a Meeting With the Counterterrorism Team

August 3, 2007

I thank you all for coming. Director Mueller, thank you for your hospitality. I'm honored to be here at the headquarters of the FBI. Just had a beginning of a series of meetings today, and during those meetings it is clear that people around that table fully understand we have no higher duty than to protect the American people. And so I'm pleased to be with my homeland security and counterterrorism teams. We've got folks in our government who spend every day working side by side with like-minded men and women in our Federal Government, all aiming to protect you, doing everything they can to protect the American people from a dangerous enemy.

I'm going to spend a little time later on this afternoon with intelligence analysts who spend every day analyzing data, attempting to track down known and suspected terrorists who either may be here or elsewhere. We've done a lot of work since September the 11th to make this country safe, and it is safer, but it's not completely safe. It's important for the American people to understand there are coldblooded killers who want to come to our homeland and wreak havoc through death. And that's what we were discussing today.

We take a clear-eyed view of the world. The people on this team, assembled in this building, see the world the way it is, not the way we hope it is. And this is a dangerous world because there's an enemy that wants to strike the homeland again. You know, it was a year ago that I met with the counterterrorism team—that we worked with Great Britain to uncover a airline plot, a plot that had it gone forward would have caused death on a massive scale. It was a reminder that the terrorists we face are sophisticated; they are coldblooded; they are changing tactics, and we must always stay ahead of them.

In other words, we've got to do more than just keep pace with these people. We've got to be ahead of the people in order to protect the American people, in order to do our most important duty. And that's what we're talking about today.

Part of the effort to do our job, part of the effort for this Federal Government to do the job the American people expects us to do in protecting you is to close intelligence gaps. We have such an intelligence gap in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. The act needs to be modernized so that all of us engaged in protecting the American people say we have the tools we need to protect you. Leaders in Congress have said they would like to address this problem before they go home. I appreciate that spirit.

The Director of National Intelligence, Mike McConnell, has provided the Congress with a narrow and targeted piece of legislation that will close the gaps in intelligence. In other words, he's working on the Hill, and he's told Members this is what we need to do our job to protect the American people. It's the bare minimum the DNI said he needs to do his job. When Congress sends me their version, when Congress listens to all the data and facts and they send me a version of how to close those gaps, I'll ask one question. And I'm going to ask the DNI: "Does this legislation give you what you need to prevent an attack on the country? Is this what you need to do your job, Mr. DNI?" That's the question I'm going to ask. And if the answer is yes, I'll sign the bill. And if the answer is no, I'm going to veto the bill.

And so far the Democrats in Congress have not drafted a bill I can sign. We've worked hard and in good faith with the Democrats to find a solution, but we are not going to put our national security at risk. Time is short. I'm going to ask Congress to stay in session until they pass a bill that will give our intelligence community the tools they need to protect the United States.

Thank you for your time.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:41 a.m. at the J. Edgar Hoover FBI Building. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on Signing the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007

August 3, 2007

Today I signed into law the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007." This legislation builds upon the considerable progress we have made in strengthening our defenses and protecting Americans since the attacks of September 11, 2001. In the largest restructuring of our Government since World War II, we created the Department of Homeland Security to better coordinate the protection and response capabilities of our Government. The Director of National Intelligence leads a restructured intelligence community that is better able to uncover, understand, and counter threats from terrorists. To implement the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, I have issued numerous Executive orders, Presidential directives, and national strategies. I have also signed into law the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, the PATRIOT Act, and other important pieces of legislation.

I am pleased that the legislation I signed today protects Americans from being unduly prosecuted for reporting activity that could lead to acts of terrorism. I also appreciate the steps taken to modernize the Visa Waiver Program, particularly the additional security measures, but I will continue to work with Congress to advance our security and foreign policy objectives by allowing greater flexibility to bring some of our closest allies into

the program. I will also continue to work with Congress to ensure the workability of the cargo screening provisions in a way that increases our vigilance on homeland security while ensuring the continuance of vital commerce. And I appreciate the willingness of Congress to remove several provisions that had previously generated concern.

There is still other work to be done. I continue to believe that Congress should act on the outstanding 9/11 Commission recommendations to reform the legislative branch's oversight of intelligence and counterterrorism activities, which the Commission described as dysfunctional. While this legislation does not heed the Commission's advice, I hope Congress revisits the issue soon.

I also believe it is important to recognize the urgent need for Congress to pass legislation to modernize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, a decades-old law that should be updated to address changes in communication technology while protecting the civil liberties of our citizens. The Director of National Intelligence has stated unequivocally that without this change in the law, we will continue to miss significant amounts of information that we should be collecting to protect against potential terrorist attacks.

Congress should also continue to strive to better target grant dollars to cities and States based on risk. This legislation makes some progress, but it also authorizes billions of dollars for grants and other programs that are unnecessary or should not be funded at such excessive levels. I will not request this excessive funding in my 2009 budget request.

I thank members of both parties in Congress who worked on this legislation, and I appreciate the willingness of members to strengthen provisions we believed would have weakened our security. Leaders in Washington should never forget that our most important duty is to protect the American people. I will continue to work with the Congress to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep our Nation safe.

NOTE: H.R. 1, approved August 3, was assigned Public Law No. 110-53.

The President's Radio Address

August 3, 2007

Good morning. Today I'm traveling to Minneapolis to the site of Wednesday's tragic bridge collapse. Like millions of Americans, I was shocked and saddened when I heard the news that the I-35 bridge gave way during rush hour. The bridge was a major traffic artery, and when it collapsed dozens of cars fell into the Mississippi River.

Laura and I join all Americans in mourning those who lost their lives and in sending our thoughts and prayers to their families. And we pray that those injured will make a full recovery.

On Thursday morning, Transportation Secretary Mary Peters and Federal Highway Administrator Richard Capka traveled to Minneapolis. They announced \$5 million in immediate Federal funding for debris removal and to help restore the flow of traffic. This is just the beginning of the financial assistance we will make available to support the State in its recovery efforts. Several Federal agencies are on the ground aiding State and local officials, including the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Coast Guard, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

I recognize how important the I-35 bridge is to the State of Minnesota, and my administration is committed to working closely with Governor Pawlenty and Mayor Rybak to rebuild this bridge as quickly as possible.

In times of tragedy, our hearts ache for those who suffer, yet our hearts are also lifted by acts of courage and compassion. We saw those qualities in the residents of a nearby apartment building who rushed to the scene to offer their help. We saw them in the divers who fought the mighty currents of the Mississippi to reach victims, and we saw them in the firefighters who searched car to car for survivors.

Among the survivors was a group of kids returning from a summer field trip. Their school bus had just passed over the Mississippi River, when the bridge below them gave way. The bus dropped more than 20 feet and came to rest on the guardrail of the collapsed bridge span. A staff member

named Jeremy Hernandez quickly swung into action. He broke open the backdoor and helped evacuate the terrified children to safety. The mother of one of the children on board credited Jeremy's presence of mind with helping spare her daughter from tragedy. She put it this way: "I don't know what he was thinking, but it must have been something really good."

Our country is fortunate to have brave and selfless citizens like Jeremy, and all those who risked their own safety to aid in the rescue. This is a difficult time for the community in Minneapolis, but the people there are decent and resilient, and they will get through these painful hours. As they do, they know that all of America stands with them, and that we will do all we can to help them recover and rebuild.

May God bless those who are hurting in Minneapolis, and may God bless our wonderful country. Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:50 a.m. on August 3 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 4. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 3. In his radio address, the President referred to Gov. Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota; and Mayor R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis, MN. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

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 28

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 29

In the afternoon, the President welcomed Prime Minister Gordon Brown of the United Kingdom to Camp David, MD.

In the evening, the President had dinner with Prime Minister Brown.

July 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Prime Minister Gordon Brown of the United Kingdom. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a photo opportunity with Ezekiel "Zeek" Taylor, the 2007 March of Dimes national ambassador.

The President announced his intention to nominate Andrew R. Cochran to be Inspector General at the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert L. Smolen to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs at the National Nuclear Security Administration.

July 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. He then had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada.

In the afternoon, in the Residence, the President met with Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi.

The President declared an emergency in the Federated States of Micronesia and ordered Federal aid to supplement national and state response efforts in the area impacted by a drought beginning on March 5 and continuing.

August 1

In the morning, in the Private Dining Room, the President had breakfast with bipartisan congressional leaders. Later, he had an intelligence briefing. He then had a video teleconference with Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq.

In the afternoon, in the Map Room, the President participated in an interview with David Aaronovitch of Juniper Communications. Later, at Blair House, the President attended a reception for Office of Manage-

ment and Budget Director Robert J. Portman.

In the evening, the President was informed of the Minneapolis bridge collapse in Minneapolis, MN.

The President announced that he has named James F. Jeffrey as Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser.

August 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Gov. Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota, Mayor R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis, MN, and Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters to discuss the Interstate 35W bridge collapse in Minneapolis, MN.

In the afternoon, the President participated in an interview with Martha Raddatz of "ABC World News Tonight with Charles Gibson."

The President announced his intention to nominate A. Paul Anderson to be a Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission, and to designate him Chairman.

The President announced his intention to nominate Dennis W. Carlton to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

The President announced his intention to nominate Cynthia Dyer to be Director of the Office of Violence Against Women at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Carl B. Kress to be a Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey William Runge to be Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service: Julie Fisher Cummings; Mark D. Gearan; Tom Osborne; Alan D. Solomont; and Donna N. Williams.

The President announced his intention to nominate Margaret Spellings to be a Representative of the U.S. to the 34th General

Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for the duration of the conference.

The President announced his intention to designate John A. Gastright as U.S. Coordinator for Afghanistan and nominate him for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure as U.S. Coordinator for Afghanistan at the Department of State.

The President announced his intention to designate James H. Herring as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation.

The President announced his intention to designate Raymond Simon as Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to appoint Brock D. Bierman as the Small State and Rural Advocate at the Federal Emergency Management Agency at the Department of Homeland Security.

August 3

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President went to the J. Edgar Hoover FBI Building where he had lunch with his counterterrorism and homeland security teams. Later, he traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President declared an emergency in Vermont and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on July 9–11.

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 July 31

Andrew R. Cochran, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, vice Nikki Rush Tinsley, resigned.

Robert L. Smolen, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, vice Thomas P. D'Agostino.

Submitted August 2 *

A. Paul Anderson, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for the term expiring June 30, 2012 (reappointment).

Dennis W. Carlton, of Illinois, to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisers, vice Katherine Baicker, resigned.

Julie Fisher Cummings, of Michigan, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring September 14, 2011, vice William A. Schambra, term expired.

Cynthia Dyer, of Texas, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice, vice Diane M. Stuart, resigned.

John A. Gastright, of South Carolina, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Coordinator for Afghanistan, Department of State.

Mark D. Gearan, of New York, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring December 1, 2010 (reappointment).

Carl B. Kress, of California, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for the term expiring June 30, 2011, vice Steven Robert Blust, resigned.

Tom Osborne, of Nebraska, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring October 6, 2012, vice Cynthia Boich, term expiring.

* These nominations were released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 3.

Jeffrey William Runge,
of North Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary
for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer,
Department of Homeland Security (new po-
sition).

Alan D. Solomont,
of Massachusetts, to be a member of the
Board of Directors of the Corporation for
National and Community Service for a term
expiring October 6, 2009 (reappointment).

Margaret Spellings,
of Texas, to be designated a Representative
of the United States of America to the Thirty-
fourth Session of the General Conference of
the United Nations Educational, Scientific,
and Cultural Organization.

Donna N. Williams,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of
Directors of the Corporation for National
and Community Service for a term expiring
October 6, 2009, vice Marc Racicot, term ex-
pired.

Submitted August 3

Stuart Ishimaru,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member
of the Equal Employment Opportunity Com-
mission for a term expiring July 1, 2012 (re-
appointment).

Withdrawn August 3

Richard E. Hoagland,
of the District of Columbia, a career member
of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Min-
ister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraor-
dinary and Plenipotentiary of the United
States of America to the Republic of Arme-
nia, which was sent to the Senate on January
9, 2007.

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 July 30

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that the President signed S. 966

Released July 31

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that the President signed S. 1868

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster
assistance to the Federated States of Micro-
nesia

Released August 1

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that the President signed H.J. Res. 44

Released August 2

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Sen-
ate vote on Judge Leslie Southwick

Released August 3

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy
Press Secretary Scott M. Stanzel

Transcript of a press briefing by Council of
Economic Advisers Chairman Edward P.
Lazear and Office of Management and Budg-
et Director Robert J. Portman on the na-
tional economy and Federal budget

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on
FISA modernization

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on
the Senate passage of intelligence legislation

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that the President signed H.R. 2429

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster
assistance to Vermont

Fact sheet: Job Creation Continues—More
Than 8.3 Million Jobs Created Since August
2003

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved July 30

S. 966 / Public Law 110–50
Passport Backlog Reduction Act of 2007

Approved July 31

S. 1868 / Public Law 110–51
Second Higher Education Extension Act of 2007

Approved August 1

H.J. Res. 44 / Public Law 110–52
Approving the renewal of import restrictions
contained in the Burmese Freedom and De-
mocracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes

Approved August 3

H.R. 1 / Public Law 110–53
Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11
Commission Act of 2007

H.R. 2429 / Public Law 110–54

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security
Act to provide an exception to the 60-day
limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrange-
ments between two physicians during the pe-
riod in which one of the physicians is ordered
to active duty as a member of a reserve com-
ponent of the Armed Forces