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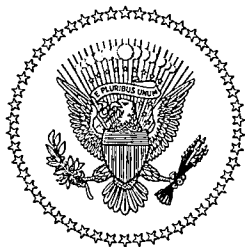
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Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents



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Monday, May 29, 1989
Volume 25—Number 21
Pages 741-775

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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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Week Ending Friday, May 26, 1989

Proclamation 5982—High School Reserve Officer Training Corps Recognition Day, 1989

May 17, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Since it was established in 1916, the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (Junior ROTC) has assisted in shaping the character and moral values of hundreds of thousands of high school students throughout the country. Participation in the High School Reserve Officer Training Corps has helped four generations of American young people to grow in self-discipline and responsibility, as well as awareness of the duties of citizenship in a democratic society.

With its emphasis on leadership, teamwork, individual initiative, civic pride, and respect for the United States, this program contributes substantially to the strength of our country and to the personal development of the high school students who participate.

To encourage the American people to learn more about the benefits of Junior ROTC and its many contributions to the Nation, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 58, has designated May 17, 1989, the seventy-third anniversary of the ROTC program's creation, as "High School Reserve Officer Training Corps Recognition Day," and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 17, 1989, as High School Reserve Officer Training Corps Recognition Day. I call upon all Americans to participate in appropriate ceremonies and events and become actively involved with their local high school ROTC programs.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:26 a.m., May 18, 1989]

Note: The proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 18, but was not received in time for inclusion in last week's issue.

Proclamation 5983—Armed Forces Day May 17, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During the past 40 years, we Americans have set aside a special day each year to recognize our debt to the men and women who defend this Nation's peace and security as members of the Armed Forces. On Armed Forces Day, we honor the men and women who serve in our Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

A nation's military strength is not found in its defensive systems and weapons alone, or even in the number of its military personnel. It is the personal character of the men and women in uniform—their faith, readiness, will, and devotion—that makes a nation's armed forces proud and strong. As Patrick Henry observed when urging his fellow Americans to fight for our country's independence: "The battle . . . is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave."

Patrick Henry's observation accents the theme for this 40th anniversary observance of Armed Forces Day: "Keeping America

Strong." Our Nation is strong today because the members of our Armed Forces are vigilant, active, and brave. America's service men and women are mindful of the precious nature of freedom and peace and of our responsibility to preserve them for generations yet unborn; they are prepared to defend innocent people from the aggression of terrorists and totalitarian governments; and they are both courageous in danger and confident in "the holy cause of liberty."

The members of America's Armed Forces are part of the noble legions that have never failed to defend our Nation or her interests anywhere in the world. As our recent experience in Grenada and the Persian Gulf so forcefully reminded us, securing peace and advancing the cause of liberty require such constant strength and determination.

Today, I join with all Americans in thanking the members of the United States Armed Forces for so faithfully defending our freedom and national security. From the newest enlisted personnel to the most seasoned Generals and Admirals—Navy crewmen in the boiler room and on the bridge, Coast Guard crews at sea and state-side, Air Force personnel on the lonely tarmac or in the busy control tower, Marines and Army soldiers from boot camp to command post—you are America's heroes as surely as the brave and selfless veterans who have gone before you.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, continuing the precedent of my eight immediate predecessors in this Office, do hereby proclaim the third Saturday of each May as Armed Forces Day.

I direct the Secretary of Defense on behalf of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Marine Corps, and the Secretary of Transportation on behalf of the Coast Guard to plan for appropriate observances each year. The Secretary of Defense shall also be responsible for soliciting the participation and cooperation of civil authorities and private citizens.

I invite the Governors of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to provide for the observance

of Armed Forces Day within their jurisdiction each year in an appropriate manner designed to increase public understanding and appreciation of the Armed Forces of the United States. I also invite national and local veterans, civic, and community service organizations to join in the annual observance of Armed Forces Day.

Finally, I call upon all Americans not only to display the flag of the United States at their homes on Armed Forces Day, but also to learn about national defense—and the men and women who sustain it—by participating in the local observances of the day.

Proclamation 4934 of April 16, 1982, is hereby superseded.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:27 a.m., May 18, 1989]

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Question-and-Answer Session With Teachers of the Wilson Magnet School in Rochester, New York

May 18, 1989

Ms. Johnston. You've already been somewhat introduced. I'm especially pleased that you asked for an opportunity to meet with the teachers of Wilson, really for a couple of reasons. Primary in the whole development of Wilson is very much akin to your message of accountability. It was a real driving force in our development. And the other reason is that, really, from my perspective, in terms of school reform, in school improvement, the real critical key role is the teacher role. It's creative and loving talent of teachers that really make a difference between a school that is just adequate and a

school that really stretches for excellence for all kids.

This is a wonderful group of people, and I think that you're going to be able to have an opportunity to hear a lot of different perspective. I'd like to start with Mr. Hathaway, who's on your left. Eddie has been with us since about 1980.

Teacher. Right, 10 years. [Laughter]

Ms. Johnston. Ten of your best, right, Eddie? Mr. Hathaway, I think, can give you a little overview of the building.

The President. Yes. I'd love to know about the change and all that.

Teacher. Well, Mr. President, Wilson is one building that's made up of three houses, three programs, if you will, but with one common goal. The building, of course, is Wilson Magnet, but the three houses that we have in here are the Academy of Excellence, which meets the needs of the humanities and languages—is our draw. We have a house known as Transition Tech, which meets the special needs of students in special need. And we also have the School of Science and Technology. I'm a part of that program. And in that program, we teach and emphasize computers and science. Our goal though, of course, is total commitment to the students. We've been fortunate here in the Rochester community because we have a total commitment from everybody. And we're trying to meet the needs of society by using the whole community as a team: industry, the outside forces right here in the community, higher education, and of course the hardworking staff here at Wilson. That's Wilson in a nutshell.

The President. Well, it's important, and it's impressive.

Teacher. We've been successful for many reasons. Gary, do you want to mention—

Teacher. Well, we're a small school and—

The President. Like numbers?

Teacher. Well, under 1,000. That makes a successful school. Teachers care, and that's what kids like. I've read papers by kids—I teach English—and some of the papers that the seniors are writing this year—they're talking about—the Wilson teachers care about kids. And kids like to know that there's somebody there that cares about them.

Teacher. Another part of Wilson that really helps make it such a success is our home aids guidance program. We take on a group of youngsters, about 20, from the time they enter the building until the time they graduate; and we become almost parents, surrogate parents. You could talk to anyone on this staff, and they would have stories for you, a lot of the different, wonderful things that are done for our kids, with our kids.

The President. Do you ever run into any parental resentment? You get 20 kids, and you find somebody that maybe needs some love and attention and caring, as Gary said. But do you ever run into some parent that doesn't want that kind of involvement?

Teacher. I never have. As a matter of fact, a particular situation that I'm involved in right now—I have nothing but parents who are very supportive of everything that we're doing.

The President. I think they all would be. I just wondered if some felt that intrusion—don't worry, we'll take care of our kids at home; you look after them at school—because the program goes into the homes, too, or not?

Teacher. Yes, definitely. Mr. Geraci will tell you, we've worked a number of times with students that we've had difficulties with at home. And one of the emphasis here at Wilson is the team approach again. If I have a difficult student—well, go ahead, Bill.

Teacher. Back to your point on the parents, do they resent teachers getting involved? I think parents for so long have been divorced, so to speak, from the process that their kids go through during the day. And finally, somebody is coming to them and asking for their input. And it is a refreshing thing for them to finally have the teachers want their involvement. And that's a big reason why this school has been successful. The community around the school has put a commitment in. The teachers have put a commitment in. The school district has put the commitment in. And really, what we've done here is we've put together commitments from seven or eight different areas—business, college, parents, teachers, kids—put them all together. And over the course of the last 8 or 9 years,

during the transition of this building, we've seen quite a bit of success here.

Teacher. We've been lucky, Mr. President, in that the staff works very hard here; just about everybody is willing to go out to the homes and meet with the families, regardless of what the family situation can be. And it can be difficult at times.

The President. A kid doesn't show or is a dropout factor and all that?

Teacher. Every day we can run into that, but we're always there to help the kids.

Teacher. I think part of the commitment idea is being helped with this school-based plan that's been instituted by the school district. This involves a team of people—parents, students, administrators, and teachers—together working for what's best for the school. And we have an outstanding team of 21 individuals, which myself and Eddie are a member of.

The President. Wait a minute. That's a faculty committee?

Teacher. It's a combination committee of parents, students—there are two student members, three parent members, some administrative members, and teaching members. And we are a team that has this commitment, and we realize that for a school to be successful you need all three groups working together—the parents and community, the students, and the faculty and staff. And that is something we've instituted this year through the auspices of the school district. But it's something that I think is going to fit our school very well. And we've had some successes now, and we're starting to move forward with our team.

Teacher. To get back to your original question about parents: Every day we have to make some parental contacts, but most of the time, just about every time, it's been with success. They say, Thanks for calling, thanks for calling, which could have been rare in other instances, until we instituted some of these programs out here.

Teacher. As a writing assignment, I asked the seniors to write their parents a letter and tell them how much they appreciated things that they've done for them over the years. And I've gotten calls, a couple of calls already. And one father said, I'm not an emotional man, but this really touched me. He said that it really did.

Teacher. Similar to that, I'm a senior class adviser this year, and in the last will and testament, which usually ends up being kind of a real funny kind of thing, most of the kids are leaving love and thank you to teachers—

The President. That helped them and stuff?

Teacher. —throughout the building.

The President. That's fantastic.

Teacher. It's been mentioned, I think a couple of times, about industry getting involved. And we have a program called PRISM, Program for Rochester Students in Science and Math. And we take students who are not motivated in those areas. And even though I don't have a home base, I work with the parents through that particular program. And that's been very helpful in getting some of the students to raise their levels of self-esteem. Some of them come in with low self-esteem or low self-expectations for themselves. So, we bring in role models. And they go to industry, and they can see certain areas that they could get into. And it's been a real help as far as trying to motivate some of the students to raise their levels of expectations and working with the parents to give them that idea that, yes, they can achieve this particular goal.

The President. Has this obvious commitment—you can't sit here, but feel that from the beginning—but has this resulted in lower incidence of vandalism or drugs and this kind of thing in the school than in some other schools, would you say? I know everywhere there are problems, everywhere, in all levels of society. But I just can't help but feel that with what you're describing—

Teacher. Mr. President, undoubtedly, it does in the sense that when you lay the district-wide demographics of suspensions or attendance or any of the incidences that is implied in the question against this school, the culture of caring here works against that kind of behavior, and it shows up in the district-wide statistics.

Your first question about the history—10 years ago this was a school where to show up here was to fail. The politics of the community were so negative about coming here that if you were a child whose parents had any power, they had you somewhere else. I

mean before. And the 10 years' involvement, including tremendous Federal magnet support, gave authority and cooperation opportunities under strong leadership, massive community participation, outstanding involvement by staff people. And they have grown a culture here where there are now waiting lists and to come here is to assume I will succeed. And then you are picked up and literally carried—pushed—through the system.

The President. How wide is your first strike zone orbit to come here? What is it, Monroe County that—

Teacher. It's a city magnet school.

The President. So, it's city-wide then?

Teacher. Yes.

The President. A magnet attracts people from—

Teacher. Well, we've gone to schools of choice since system-wide—the whole 912 programs—there are no neighborhood schools. But this is one of the models of why to do that. I mean, one of the questions I constantly run into with the staff is that the greatest strength of being here is that the students have chosen, the parents have chosen to come here. That's a piece of the relationship that's very powerful as you start a relationship.

Teacher. Mr. President, we don't skim; we don't take the top 10 percent. We don't get the cream of the crop all the time. We want to pull in different—an A person, not always an A student, somebody who says, I'm interested in this program; I want to go to this magnet, even though—

The President. Who decides that? Who decides who gets in? If you have more applications than you have spaces, is there a board that decides that, or is there—

Teacher. In the early days of recruitment, we really had to go recruit. An application got you here. Since then, as the applications have come up, there's been a constant revision in terms of what role the school plays in the acceptance and what role the central system plays. What we end up doing now is monitoring the distribution of race and sex and previous achievement. And you're absolutely right: This school takes pretty much a cross section and yet has been able to maintain both the support and the excellence.

The President. A cross section of the economic base.

Teacher. Because the teachers take on the ownership. [*Inaudible*]

Teacher. I teach special education. I meet the needs of learning disabled and disturbed students. And what that means to me is that I can offer them the least restrictive environment. And because of the teachers here—the staff has been so supportive in meeting my needs and my students' needs, in terms of physics or biology, something I couldn't offer to them in the classroom. So, the teachers here offer a cognitive as well as effective education for the students. It's just not academics. And that's where you really get the support of also Wilson Magnet High School.

Teacher. Mr. President, the commitment you're seeing in this community is that the community is trying to make the commitment to raise the level of all students. Wilson Magnet is a leadership school in that process, but it's one school among many where we're trying to raise the level for every kid, including the special ed kids, the kids in this school, and the kids in the rest of the system. And that's one of the things that makes Rochester unique, because it's such a broad-based effort to do it total, system-wide, that's got the support of the business community, the social agencies, working with a very responsive school system.

The President. I got a touching letter when I was in New Jersey, to a school of excellence, a really good achieving high school. I got a letter from this girl who had been standing out on the—she said, "Well, don't forget those of us that are"—I forget how she phrased it—"aren't bright, but try harder." And we were saluting, in this instance, excellence, and listening carefully and hoping to use what we learned there to make a national example, as we'd like to do from this experience. But it was a very moving and touching letter because, you know, what she was saying is, Well, we're not the brightest, but we try harder, and we're going to work hard. This was one who was not a high achiever, but was disadvantaged.

Teacher. The skimming concept was a discussion we had before you came in

saying—[laughter]—saying we as a community are not interested, I don't believe, in a skimming system, but in a system that raises everybody.

The President. Yes, well, that's what I thought of what Ed said.

Teacher. I've just been given a signal that indicates that there are I think about 350 wonderful Wilson students that are most anxious to meet you, Mr. President, so I have to—

The President. Well, let's do it. I'm sure glad our Congressmen—both Congressman LaFalce and Congressman Horton came up with us on Air Force One. And I don't dare speak for Congressmen. But in this instance we were talking about how much we were looking forward to it, and they telling me how much I would enjoy it. And they're right. So, I'm glad they're with us here today.

Teacher. And we're glad, too. Thank you.

Teacher. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you all very much. Well, I'm just sorry Barbara's not here because she loves—and she really is trying hard to help on this whole volunteer sector thing. Her main focus has been literacy, but she's—you know, everything ties into literacy. So, she's really working hard at it. But today, I was telling Sue, we're having the President of the French Republic come to our house. So, first she bawled me out about that. And secondly, because the house has been closed all winter—it's up on the seashore, so she's up trying to get everything ready.

Teacher. You just brought up a good point: literacy. We've got to be working as a team always, always.

The President. Yes. It gets through everything—work force and to our competitiveness and being able to compete abroad and to retraining when industries—you know, one's a loser and another's a winner—the whole retraining. It's almost—and you know far better than I—some of the examples are so tragic: people that fight it and hide it and because of pride and not wanting their kids to know. It's just—but anyway, I'll fill my wife in on all of this.

Teacher. And please bring her.

The President. She'd love to. I know she'd love to come sometime.

Teacher. We'd love it.

The President. We'll try, we'll try. I've often thought what it would be like to live in times where you didn't have any budget problems in the Federal Government, because there are so many worthwhile things. Thank you all very much. Nice to see you.

Note: The President spoke at 10:48 a.m. in the school library. Suzanne Johnston is the principal of the school, and William Geraci, Joseph Baldino, Darlene Sauerhafer, Edward Hathaway, Reggie Simmons, and Barbara Drmacichi are teachers who participated in the discussion. Gary Simon is a school administrator. The remarks were not received in time for inclusion in last week's issue.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on Savings and Loan Financing Legislation

May 18, 1989

The Ways and Means Committee vote would put the S&L financing plan nominally on-budget, but would waive the entire amount from Gramm-Rudman-Hollings. This amounts to a direct assault on Gramm-Rudman-Hollings budget discipline. It creates an artificial accounting approach that is called on-budget, but is in effect off-budget in terms of the way the spending is counted.

Finally, the committee action creates a contentious issue for the House floor and the conference with the Senate. That means delay, and every day we wait costs at least \$10 million. The Senate completed its action a month ago. The House must act and act quickly.

Note: The statement was not received in time for inclusion in last week's issue.

**Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater
on the Student Demonstrations in
China**

May 20, 1989

President Bush this morning received his daily intelligence briefing, including an update on the status of events in China. The situation remains uncertain. Both sides have exercised restraint, and we urge that restraint to continue. The United States stands for freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, and President Bush commented yesterday on the inexorable march of democracy in China. The demonstrations of the last few days indicate that the hunger for change remains strong. We remain hopeful that a dialog between the government and the students is possible.

**Remarks at the Boston University
Commencement Ceremony in Boston,
Massachusetts**

May 21, 1989

Thank you, President Silber. And President and Madame Mitterrand, it's a great honor to have you here today. And to Governor Dukakis, my respects—the chief executive of this great State and my friend as well. To Mayor Flynn, His Eminence Cardinal Law, and Dr. Metcalf, Dr. Wiesel, and, yes, Kimberly, to you for that wonderful speech earlier on. And to Nancy Joaquim, who rendered both “The Marseillaise” and “The Star-Spangled Banner” in such fine way. It's a pleasure to be back in Boston, back in one of my home States—[laughter]—and I am delighted and honored to receive a doctor of laws from Boston University along with President Mitterrand. Doctor of laws—does this now make us a couple of Boston lawyers, my friend, Mr. Mitterrand? [Laughter] Who knows? I also would like to salute another most distinguished visitor: Prime Minister Mahathir of Malaysia, a friend to the United States, whose son is graduating today. We're honored to have him here. And I want to congratulate Barbara on a B.U. degree of her very own. [Laughter] And now that you're an alumna, take note: this kinder and

gentler America that I'm speaking of does not always include the Terriers. [Laughter]

My sincerest congratulations go to every Boston University graduate and to all you proud parents cooking out along the 50-yard line there. [Laughter] And as Boston University graduates, you take with you a degree from a great institution, and something more: knowledge of the past and responsibility for the future. And take a look at our world today. Nations are undergoing changes so radical that the international system you know and will know in the future will be as different from today's as today's world is from the time of Woodrow Wilson. How will America prepare, then, for the challenges ahead?

It's with your future in mind that, after deliberation and a review, we are adapting our foreign policies to meet this challenge. I've outlined how we're going to try to promote reform in Eastern Europe and how we're going to work with our friends in Latin America. In Texas, I spoke to another group of graduates of our new approach to the Soviet Union, one of moving beyond containment, to seek to integrate the Soviets into the community of nations, to help them share the rewards of international cooperation.

But today I want to discuss the future of Europe, that mother of nations and ideas that is so much a part of America. And it is fitting that I share this forum with a very special friend of the United States. President Mitterrand, you have the warm affection and high regard of the American people. And I remember well about 8 years ago when you joined us in Yorktown in 1981 to celebrate the bicentennial of that first Franco-American fight for freedom. And soon I will join you in Paris, sir, to observe the 200th anniversary of the French struggle for liberty and equality. And this is just one example of the special bond between two continents. But consider this city. From the Old North Church to Paul Revere's home nestled in the warm heart of the Italian North End, to your famous song-filled Irish pubs, the Old and New Worlds are inseparable in this city. But as we look back to Old World tradition, we must look ahead to a new Europe. Historic

changes will shape your careers and your very lives.

The changes that are occurring in Western Europe are less dramatic than those taking place in the East, but they are no less fundamental. The postwar order that began in 1945 is transforming into something very different. And yet certain essentials remain, because our alliance with Western Europe is utterly unlike the cynical power alliances of the past. It is based on far more than the perception of a common enemy; it is a tie of culture and kinship and shared values. And as we look toward the 21st century, Americans and Europeans alike should remember the words of Raymond Aron, who called the alliance a "moral and spiritual community." Our ideals are those of the American Bill of Rights and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man. And it is precisely because the ideals of this community are universal that the world is in ferment today.

Now a new century holds the promise of a united Europe. And as you know, the nations of Western Europe are already moving toward greater economic integration, with the ambitious goal of a single European market in 1992. The United States has often declared it seeks a healing of old enmities, an integration of Europe. And at the same time, there has been an historical ambivalence on the part of some Americans toward a more united Europe. To this ambivalence has been added apprehension at the prospect of 1992. But whatever others may think, this administration is of one mind. We believe a strong, united Europe means a strong America.

Western Europe has a gross domestic product that is roughly equal to our own and a population that exceeds ours. European science leads the world in many fields, and European workers are highly educated and highly skilled. We are ready to develop with the European Community and its member states new mechanisms of consultation and cooperation on political and global issues, from strengthening the forces of democracy in the Third World to managing regional tensions to putting an end to the division of Europe. A resurgent Western Europe is an economic magnet, drawing Eastern Europe closer toward the commonwealth of free nations. A more mature

partnership with Western Europe will pose new challenges. There are certain to be clashes and controversies over economic issues. America will, of course, defend its interests. But it is important to distinguish adversaries from allies, and allies from adversaries. What a tragedy, what an absurdity it would be if future historians attribute the demise of the Western alliance to disputes over beef hormones and wars over pasta. We must all work hard to ensure that the Europe of 1992 will adopt the lower barriers of the modern international economy, not the high walls and the moats of medieval commerce.

But our hopes for the future rest ultimately on keeping the peace in Europe. Forty-two years ago, just across the Charles River, Secretary of State George Marshall gave a commencement address that outlined a plan to help Europe recover. Western Europe responded heroically and later joined with us in a partnership for the common defense: a shield we call NATO. And this alliance has always been driven by a spirited debate over the best way to achieve peaceful change. But the deeper truth is that the alliance has achieved an historic peace because it is united by a fundamental purpose. Behind the NATO shield, Europe has now enjoyed 40 free years of conflict—40 years free of conflict—the longest period of peace the Continent has ever known. Behind this shield, the nations of Western Europe have risen from privation to prosperity, all because of the strength and resolve of free peoples.

With a Western Europe that is now coming together, we recognize that new forms of cooperation must be developed. We applaud the defense cooperation developing in the revitalized Western European Union, whose members worked with us to keep open the sealanes of the Persian Gulf. And we applaud the growing military cooperation between West Germany and France. And we welcome British and French programs to modernize their deterrent capability and their moves toward cooperation in this area. It is perfectly right and proper that Europeans increasingly see their defense cooperation as an investment in a secure future. But we do have a major

concern of a different order: There's a growing complacency throughout the West.

And, of course, your generation can hardly be expected to share the grip of past anxieties. With such a long peace, it is hard to imagine how it could be otherwise. But our expectations in this rapidly changing world cannot race so far ahead that we forget what is at stake. There's a great irony here. While an ideological earthquake is shaking asunder the very Communist foundation, the West is being tested by complacency. We must never forget that twice in this century American blood has been shed over conflicts that began in Europe. And we share the fervent desire of Europeans to relegate war forever to the province of distant memory. But that is why the Atlantic alliance is so central to our foreign policy. And that's why America remains committed to the alliance and the strategy which has preserved freedom in Europe. We must never forget that to keep the peace in Europe is to keep the peace for America.

NATO's policy of flexible response keeps the United States linked to Europe and lets any would-be aggressors know that they will be met with any level of force needed to repel their attack and frustrate their designs. And our short-range deterrent forces based in Europe, and kept up to date, demonstrate that America's vital interests are bound inextricably to Western Europe and that an attacker can never gamble on a test of strength with just our conventional forces. Though hope is now running high for a more peaceful continent, the history of this century teaches Americans and Europeans to remain prepared.

As we search for a peace that is enduring, I'm grateful for the steps that Mr. Gorbachev is taking. If the Soviets advance solid and constructive plans for peace, then we should give credit where credit is due. And we're seeing sweeping changes in the Soviet Union that show promise of enduring, of becoming ingrained. At the same time, in an era of extraordinary change, we have an obligation to temper optimism—and I am optimistic—with prudence. For example, the Soviet Foreign Minister informed the world last week that his nation's commitment to destroy SS-23 missiles under the recently enacted INF treaty may be reversible. And the Soviets must surely

know the results of failure to comply with this solemn agreement. Perhaps their purpose was to divide the West on other issues that you're reading about in the papers today. But regardless, it is clear that Soviet "new thinking" has not yet totally overcome the old.

I believe in a deliberate step-by-step approach to East-West relations because recurring signs show that while change in the Soviet Union is dramatic, it's not yet complete. The Warsaw Pact retains a nearly 12-to-1 advantage over the Atlantic alliance in short-range missiles and rocket launchers capable of delivering nuclear weapons and more than a 2-to-1 advantage in battle tanks. And for that reason, we will also maintain, in cooperation with our allies, ground and air forces in Europe as long as they are wanted and needed to preserve the peace in Europe. At the same time, my administration will place a high and continuing priority on negotiating a less militarized Europe, one with a secure conventional force balance at lower levels of forces. Our aspiration is a real peace, a peace of shared optimism, not a peace of armed camps.

Nineteen-ninety-two is the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the New World, so we have five centuries to celebrate, nothing less than our very civilization—the American Bill of Rights and the French Rights of Man, the ancient and unwritten constitution of Great Britain, and the democratic visions of Konrad Adenauer and Alcide de Gasperi. And in all our celebrations, we observe one fact: This truly is a moral and spiritual community. It is our inheritance, and so, let us protect it. Let us promote it. Let us treasure it for our children, for Americans and Europeans yet unborn. We stand with France as part of a solid alliance. And once again, let me say how proud I am to have received this degree from this noble institution, and to have shared this platform with the President of the French Republic, François Mitterrand.

Thank you very, very much. *Vive la France* and long live the United States of America. Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 12:33 p.m. at Dickerson Field on the campus of the uni-

versity. In his opening remarks, he referred to John Silber, president of Boston University; Bernard Cardinal Law, Archbishop of Boston; Arthur G.B. Metcalf, chairman of the university's board of trustees; Elie Wiesel, Andrew Mellon Professor in the Humanities; and Kimberly Sudnick, a graduating student and speaker at the ceremony.

News Conference of President Bush and President Mitterrand of France May 21, 1989

President Mitterrand. Ladies and gentlemen, the French guests here and myself—we're coming to the end of our stay in the United States; and this meeting with the press is, more or less, the last event. And the journalists who have been good enough to follow us during the last 24 hours will have appreciated, I think, that we've had a very full day. But you will, of course, be able in a moment to ask the questions which you feel most suited to the requirements of the day. And President Bush and myself will be at your disposal to reply to them.

But personally, and also on behalf of my country, I would like to say how very deeply sensitive we are to the way in which Mrs. Bush and President Bush have received us, my wife and myself. They received us in a very warm, homely family, and restful atmosphere; but at the same time, we were able to have some intensive, political, serious conversations which were given, as it were, more life thanks to the forest air and the sea breeze that we were able to breathe.

Now President Bush will be saying a few words, and then we'll be open to questions. But I'd like to personally thank all those who have been good enough to accompany us during our stay and comment on what we have done.

President Bush. Thank you, Mr. President. Well, first, let me just say what a pleasure it was having President Mitterrand and Madame Mitterrand as our guests in Maine. We've just come from the commencement of Boston University. And nothing better symbolizes the strength of the

friendship and the common values which we share—which our two nations share—and which really the President celebrated with us 8 years ago, when he came to Yorktown, celebrating the 200th anniversary of that battle.

So, the weekend was not all work and no play; it provided a good opportunity for us to discuss many of the main issues on the international agenda. And by the end of this week, both of us will be traveling to Brussels for the NATO summit. We agreed on the central role the Atlantic alliance has played in keeping the peace for the past four decades, the enduring value of this partnership in the common defense in the years ahead. And we also agreed on the critical contribution the nuclear deterrent has made in keeping us free and secure and at peace. We also talked about the opportunities that lie before us in the light of the changes now taking place in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe. And both of us will watch developments in the Soviet Union, seeking signs of lasting change. Of course, we discussed the dramatic events now taking place in Beijing, in China. The President, I believe, shares my view—I'll let him speak for himself—that our goal should be a bold one, to move beyond containment, towards the integration of the Soviet Union into the community of nations. And of course, we discussed how the United States will relate to France and the rest of Western Europe in the years ahead.

I sensed an excitement on his part about the future. We exchanged views about the themes that I touched on in my earlier remarks here at B.U. [Boston University]: America's readiness for a more mature transatlantic partnership, the vision of a commonwealth of free nations as a bridge to overcome the divisions of Europe. And we also discussed the potential for improved cooperation with the EC [European Community] as we approach 1992 and the single European market, as well as the prospects for greater Western European cooperation in addressing the political and global issues around the world. And I heard his clarion's call for cooperative action on the environment, and I salute him for that.

Beyond the NATO [North Atlantic Treaty Organization] summit and East-West rela-

tions, we exchanged views on so many subjects, many of which will be on the agenda at the Paris economic summit. We agreed that more needs to be done in practical, realistic ways to deal with the environment and to deal with the problems of global warming. And we also reviewed ways of advancing the peace progress in the Middle East, the urgent need to try to find, or be helpful in finding, a solution to the situation in Lebanon.

On the question of peace and democracy in this hemisphere, in Central America, we share the view that democracy must be restored in Panama and that the commitments undertaken at Esquipulas are the key to peace and democracy in the region.

Now, we'd be glad to take questions.

Student Demonstrations in China

Q. Mr. President, the students in China have been told to leave Tiananmen Square or face military attack. What's your reaction to that, and do you have any message for the students, other than that the United States supports freedom of speech and freedom of assembly?

President Bush. We do support freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of the press; and clearly, we support democracy. I don't want to be gratuitous in giving advice, but I would encourage restraint. I do not want to see bloodshed. We revere the model of Martin Luther King in this country for his peaceful protest. And so, I might suggest a familiarization with that for the people in China. And I would urge the Government to be as forthcoming as possible in order to see more democratization and to see a peaceful resolution of this matter.

Short-Range Nuclear Forces in Europe

Q. President Mitterrand, do you think that progress has been made in bringing French and American views—well, in hoping to bring German and American views closer together on the question of modernization of nuclear short-term weapons in Europe? And do you think that you are there to act as an intermediary, a conciliator?

President Mitterrand. The only role I play is the role that is my natural role as a member of the alliance. But I am not par-

ticularly there to act as a mediator. Obviously, I'm happy if views can be reconciled and believe, I think, that they can be reconciled. I think that we have now the elements of ideas that could form a decision that will be taken just in a week's time. And I think that the decision that will be taken will be found positive from the point of view of all members of the alliance. You know what my suggestions on the subject are because I made them clear in Paris.

Q. Mr. President, on that point, the indication out of Bonn today was that the West Germans have not accepted the explicit conditions that were handed to Mr. Stoltenberg [West German Minister of Finance] on Friday for talks on SNF. A West German spokesman said that those conditions were merely—I think he said—a basis for further dialog. Is the U.S. position negotiable at this point, and how do you sum up the likelihood of resolving this before the NATO summit?

President Bush. I think great progress has been made. One way to guarantee there will not be progress is to lock each other in, in public statements, so I do not intend to comment on the specifics. The report I saw from Bonn was somewhat more encouraging than the way you phrased this one, in terms of being very, very close together with the Germans. This is an alliance that contains many countries, and we are in active consultation with the Germans and others. And of course, I had the benefit over this weekend of hearing directly from President Mitterrand on his views. But I think that we could well have this resolved before the summit.

U.S. Immigration Laws

Q. You spoke about the common bond between the United States and France and the economic changes that will be coming about in 1992 and, of course, the obvious benefit to the United States. Yet we have an immigration law at the present that disfavors Europeans. Do you see this matter being resolved so that Europeans can continue to contribute to the United States?

President Bush. I want to see the immigration matter resolved, and yes, I do foresee it being resolved.

Student Demonstrations in China

Q. Mr. Bush, you have a personal interest in China and the Chinese people, yet your statements have seemed to be very cautious and diplomatic. Have you made any private representation to the Chinese leadership or given any suggestions to them on how to resolve—or what you might help with in the democracy movement in China?

President Bush. We have been in touch with our Ambassador on this very key question. I think this perhaps is a time for caution because we aspire to see the Chinese people have democracy, but we do not exhort in a way that is going to stir up a military confrontation. We do not want to have a situation like happened in Burma or some other place. And so, as we counsel restraint and as we counsel peaceful means of effecting change, that is sound advice. And I think to go beyond that and encourage steps that could lead to bloodshed would be inappropriate.

For President Mitterrand—his next question, unless you've exhausted them all. I'll take a couple of—

Short-Range Nuclear Forces in Europe

Q. It's really primarily for President Bush, but of course, if President Mitterrand wishes to add on—[laughter].

Mr. President, you said we could well have agreement on SNF before the summit. I gather you're talking about the West Germans, because we're getting reports out of London that Mrs. Thatcher [British Prime Minister] is not, as the English say, best pleased about this. And this is confusing because we also understand that you took Mrs. Thatcher's wishes into account when you were formulating your counterproposal and that, in fact, you were in rather close touch with the British. Do you think we could go to Brussels with the British not having signed on to this and yet you would have agreement with the West Germans?

President Bush. Mr. President Mitterrand?

President Mitterrand. Well, I can appreciate exactly what kind of a dialog you were hoping to achieve, but the rules of the game are that it's my turn to answer. Well, you may be asking for an opinion, but I would say this: that within the Atlantic alliance, there is full equality among all part-

ners. And on this problem, like on other problems, at the outset, people have diverging views, different opinions. But the important thing is to come to a meeting of the minds and to achieve a common answer. And this has always been the case in the alliance. A particular view will only carry more weight if it carries more wisdom and more common sense. So, I'm not going to sit here and award prizes to this view or that view. There's no particular view which would prevail. The important thing is that the general interest of the alliance should prevail, and it will.

Student Demonstrations in China

Q. Mr. President, you called for restraint in China, and you said that the lessons of Martin Luther King could well be heeded here. Do you believe the protesters should go home? Do you think there is a revolution underway in China now?

President Bush. I don't think that it would be appropriate for the President of the United States to say to the demonstrators and the students in Beijing exactly what their course of action should be. That is for them to determine. They know the United States commitment to democracy, to the commitment to freedom, to the aspiration we have that all people will live in democratic societies. But I'm not about to suggest what I think they ought to do, except to spell out peaceful and continue to fight for what you believe in, stand up for what you believe in, but beyond that, I cannot go.

No, go ahead. Follow-on?

Q. How unstable is the situation?

President Bush. Well, I don't know. I think we have to wait and see. There's certainly an enormous expression on the part of many people—students and others—for change, toward movement toward democracy. I lived there. I saw a society totally different than the one that exists in China today. China has moved, in some areas, towards democracy. Now, the quest is, and the appeal from these kids is, to move further. And so, I am one who feels that the quest for democracy is very powerful. But I am not going to dictate or try to say from the United States how this matter should be

resolved by these students. I'm not going to do it.

As for John's [John Cochran, NBC News] question, we have been in very close touch with Mrs. Thatcher. And I listened attentively and with great interest to what President Mitterrand said, and I agree with him: that we can get together on this vexing question. There are strong-willed people from strong countries, and they each have an opinion. But my role has been to try, behind the scenes, to be helpful for working this problem out. And I should salute the President of France as he has tried to be extraordinarily helpful in working this problem out. Now, your job is to know every step of the way the nuances of difference that exist between the parties, and mine is to see if we can't iron out those differences. And that's exactly what I'm doing, what Secretary [of State] Baker is doing, and what others are doing.

Relations With the Soviet Union

Q. Mr. President, you were talking about the attitude we should have towards the Soviet Union, particularly on the part of the allies. Do you think that the Cold War has come to an end, and if so, has it come to an end once and for all?

President Mitterrand. People seem to want us to play the role of crystal-gazers, which we are not. It's like a revolution. You only know afterwards if a thing turned out to be a revolution. As far as the Cold War is concerned, one thing is clear, and that is that we are moving out of the Cold War. And the chances are that this will be true for a very long time. There will be moments when things will be more difficult, doubtless, but I don't see us slipping right back into the Cold War. Of course, anything is possible. A lot will depend on the trend of developments within the Soviet Union.

Q. Mr. President, you said in your speech today that you're grateful for some of these proposals with Secretary Gorbachev, yet some in your administration have made no secret of their disdain for some of these proposals. In talking about "beyond containment," did the recent proposals of Secretary Gorbachev on conventional and nuclear weapons meet any of your tests for going beyond containment?

President Bush. Yes. I not only encourage him to continue to make proposals but I'd encourage him to unilaterally implement the proposals. Many of them address themselves to conventional forces where they have an extraordinary preponderant imbalance, where they have the weight on their side. And so, I'd like to see that. But I don't think anybody is criticizing the specific proposals. All we want to see is real progress. And when you have the historic imbalance that exists on conventional forces, yes, I welcome the proposals and like to see them implemented. And it's in that area that we're looking for reality versus rhetoric. And I know that some are quite restless about the pace that I have set in dealing with the Soviet Union, but I think it's the proper pace. And I will be prepared when Jim Baker goes back to talk some more. I'm most anxious to be sure that the alliance is together on these questions. And so, we have time.

And in the meantime, I welcome not only the change of openness and the change of reform but I want to see it continue. And I welcome the proposals, but I would like to see them implemented. And that would still leave a large imbalance in favor of the Soviets on many of these proposals—not all of them. Some of them talk to get where we need to be engaged, because they talked to getting down to equal numbers. But no, I salute the man, as I said, for certain kinds of steps that he has taken. But I hope I'll be forgiven for being cautious and for being prudent and not for being stampeded into something that might prove to be no good for the alliance or not good for the United States.

President Gorbachev of the Soviet Union

Q. For President Mitterrand and also for President Bush. Mr. Gorbachev has been described by the President's spokesman as a "drugstore cowboy." Do you agree with this description—a question for both Presidents.

President Mitterrand. I think that one must be wary of caricatures. Mr. Gorbachev is worth very much more than that.

President Bush. So much for Marlin. In fairness to the man—

Mr. Fitzwater. No, don't defend me.

President Bush. No, don't defend you? Which I would be perfectly prepared to do.

Boston Harbor Cleanup Efforts

Q. Mr. President, being back in Boston, does it encourage you to do anything about restoring the money for the Boston Harbor that the Congress—

President Bush. Hey, I'm pleased that the cleanup seems to be going forward. How's that for an answer?

International Influence

Q. This is a question, I guess—it's a question for both people. Do you believe that the American public is aware of the limits of American power and of your ability to really influence political events like those in China, Panama, and Europe?

President Mitterrand. Well, I think on these questions of influence—influence can be of a material kind and military or peaceful. But it can also be of a moral kind and psychological. There's a whole rainbow, a whole range, of possibilities. Of course, the first problem that you're always up against is the problem of noninterference in other people's affairs. That being said—but it's a question of human rights. One mustn't stop at that. And I think one must give priority to the public assertion of the basic principles of human rights, and that is what must be prevailed.

So, I think that, with reference to the countries you are mentioning, these principles should be recalled to the countries concerned. But recourse to arms is probably not the kind of method that is fully in tune with the requirements of our day. And to think that you can win whole populations over to your way of thinking by threatening them with guns or tanks is obviously wrong. What is also very important, and more important, is to win over international public opinion, to mobilize public opinion, both within and without the country, so that those governments which fail in the respect of human rights will be, both within and without, with their backs to the wall on the subject. That being said, I know of no miracle cure in these matters, no unfailing method that always works. And if I were able to come here to Boston and someone could give me the golden key that would

open all these doors, well, I'd be very happy and perhaps somewhat surprised.

American Hostages in Lebanon

Q. Mr. President, in your discussions this weekend concerning Lebanon, did you discuss the situation concerning the hostages, and have you any news concerning avenues that could be pursued towards their eventual release?

President Bush. On the hostages—any avenues to pursue on that?

Q. Did you discuss it this weekend?

President Bush. Well, it was just touched on because—but we discussed Lebanon in depth. And the hostage situation obviously continues to be on our mind, and President Mitterrand was most sympathetic—the French people held various times against their will. And so, that underlies the concerns that I feel. But Lebanon transcends just our own keen interest in the hostage question—to see a once peaceful country, where various factions could live together, now ripped asunder by war and by outside pressures, demands world action. And yet again, when you look at the alternatives, they aren't that clear. And we have called for the cease-fire, supporting the Arab League posture: getting foreign troops out of Lebanon and trying to have the election process go forward so you can have an elected president that fulfills the will of the people.

President Mitterrand was very helpful because he has a unique view of Lebanon, with France's history there. And yet I don't think either of us came up with a simple answer. I saluted what he tried to do when he encouraged the Secretary-General of the United Nations to go there. But for various reasons, that did not work out. So, we did talk about a couple of other specific approaches that we might take, which I think should remain confidential. But it was discussed in detail. It is a matter of enormous urgency. And in the United States, of course, you heard Cardinal Law [Archbishop of Boston] today appropriately singling out Lebanon because of the religious divisions there. And I wish there was an easy answer to it, and the United States stands ready to help, if we can.

We're off. Thank you.

President Mitterrand. Thank you.

Note: President Bush's 12th news conference began at 1:28 p.m. on Dickerson Field at Boston University. President Mitterrand spoke in French, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. Marlin Fitzwater is President Bush's Press Secretary.

Remarks at a Briefing on Cuban Independence Day

May 22, 1989

What a great pleasure, and thank you for that warm welcome. It's I who should be welcoming you to celebrate this wonderful occasion, the 87th anniversary of Cuban independence, and, you know, a special day. But you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day, for we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people. And that debt goes back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were short of food and supply. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom. And 126 years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom; for it was on May 20th, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born. And we gather here to remember that victory and the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was Cuba's George Washington, that great President, Jose Marti, who said it best: "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty and a free, united, and democratic Cuba. And as President I am unalterably committed to a free, united, democratic Cuba; and I'm not going to ever falter in that support. I know that you all are with me in that, and so is our country, for we oppose those who mock the very rights that we treasure: freedom of speech, religion, assembly, economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: democracy and respect for human rights, not sometime, not someday, but now. And this afternoon I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners and to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. And I

challenge him to allow unrestricted access to the United Nations and other organizations monitoring their compliance, and a policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states. And on this celebration of Cuban Independence Day I challenge him, Fidel Castro, to take concrete and specific steps leading to free and fair elections and full democracy. A useful first step would be to accept a proposed plebiscite in Cuba. I also strongly believe that Cubans who wish to leave Cuba should be allowed to do so—a fundamental human right guaranteed by free nations. And I challenge Castro—[*applause*]—and I challenge him to show that Cuba is truly independent by sharply reducing the Soviet military presence there. And this I pledge: Unless Fidel Castro is willing to change his policies and behavior, we will maintain our present policy toward Cuba. Knock off this wild speculation as just that—some suggesting that our administration is going to unilaterally shift things with Fidel Castro. I am not going to do that, and I'm glad you're here to hear it directly from me.

And until we see some of these changes I'm talking about, we will continue to oppose Cuba's reentry to the Organization of American States. And this too I promise: To help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years, we will continue Radio Marti, and we will push forward our proposal on TV Marti. It is important that the people of Cuba know the truth, and we will see that the people of Cuba do know the truth about their dictator and about the world.

And the thirst for democracy is unquenchable. And totalitarian systems everywhere are feeling new pressures from the people. You see it today on the television sets, coming out of China. We've seen those beginnings of it in the Soviet Union and many, many other countries around the world. And so, don't tell me that Cubans don't want freedom and democracy; they do. And I challenge Fidel Castro to let the will of the people prevail.

In short, what we want to do is to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and a richer meaning: freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression; freedom from the economic

misery wrought by the Communist misrule; the freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart; and, yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. In a sense, they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many, many heroes—those who struggled valiantly almost 90 years ago and those who struggle today—unsung heroes, for example, like longtime political prisoner Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo, who refuses to give up; heroes like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here on stage, who has condemned eloquently—repeatedly—Castro's violation of human rights; or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere, a hero of mine, a hero of our times, and I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares. Let the American people see him now—22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal. It meant a lot to the entire Bush family and has certainly been an inspiration to me. You've all read it, I hope. And if not, why, we can boost the sales by recommending it. [Laughter] It's called "Against All Hope," and it describes how he, how Armando, survived beatings and starvations and unspeakable horror. And I'm sure many of you have read it, but it's a tribute to the arching human spirit, to that will to live, which helped endure the cruelest of regimes, a tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people, resolute and unafraid.

I had a discussion, I told Armando, I think, this—with one of the great leaders in this hemisphere. And he wondered why we were doing what we were doing in Central America. And I said, "Well, I'll tell you why. It's a book called "Against All Hope." That book relates to the deprivation of human rights in Cuba." And he said, "Well, what does that have to do with Central America?" I said, "Read the book, and you'll see. Read the book because you'll understand that a deprivation of human rights in a Cuban prison is no different than the deprivation of human rights in a prison in Nicaragua." And he did, and I hope it's made a difference in that country's approach to foreign policy. But whether it did or not, the respect I have for Armando and the courage he has shown really knows no bounds. It is absolutely without limits, and the fact that he headed our delegation

fighting for human rights, I think, said an awful lot about our commitment, the commitment of every American to human rights and to freedom.

And so, the courage that is demonstrated by these—and I risk offending by failing to mention others right here in this room—but that courage has helped you and your families endure. And one day it will, I am convinced—I really believe this—unite a million free Cuban Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers. And if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming. God bless you. And God bless America. Thank you very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 2:34 p.m. in Room 450 at the Old Executive Office Building.

Nomination of Thomas J. Murrin To Be Deputy Secretary of Commerce

May 22, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate Thomas Joseph Murrin to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce. He would succeed Donna F. Tuttle.

Mr. Murrin was president of Westinghouse Energy and Advance Technology Group, 1983-1987. From 1952 until 1987, he served in various capacities for Westinghouse Electric Corp., including president of the Public Systems Co., 1974; senior vice president of the Public Systems Group, 1974; executive vice president of the Defense and Public Systems Group, 1971; group vice president of defense, 1967; corporate vice president of manufacturing, 1965. In 1959 he was appointed European manufacturing representative based in Geneva, Switzerland, and was superintendent of factory planning for the new distribution transformer plant in Athens, GA, in 1955. He joined the Carnegie Mellon University as distinguished service professor in technology and management.

Mr. Murrin graduated from Fordham University (B.S., 1951). He is married, has

eight children, and resides in Pittsburgh, PA.

Proclamation 5984—National Digestive Disease Awareness Month, 1989

May 22, 1989

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

An estimated 20 million Americans suffer from chronic digestive diseases, and more Americans are hospitalized for these diseases than for any other type of illness. The total social and economic impact of digestive diseases is thus enormous, affecting half of all Americans at some time during their lives and costing the Nation nearly \$50 billion each year. In addition to the immeasurable pain, discomfort, and personal distress they inflict upon their victims, digestive diseases rank third among illnesses in total cost in the United States. These diseases are responsible for almost 15 percent of all admissions to general hospitals and for 25 percent of all surgical procedures.

Medical science has made important advances in the field of digestive diseases research in recent years. Recognizing the widespread impact of digestive diseases and the dire need for research in this field, many governmental, health care, scientific, and voluntary organizations have committed themselves to increasing public awareness and understanding of gastrointestinal diseases.

In recognition of their important efforts to combat digestive diseases, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 170, has designated the month of May 1989 as "National Digestive Disease Awareness Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of May 1989 as National Digestive Disease Awareness Month. I urge all government agencies and the people of the United States, as well as educational, philanthropic, scientific, medi-

cal, and health care organizations and professionals, to participate in appropriate ceremonies to encourage further research into the causes and cures of all types of digestive diseases.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:47 a.m., May 23, 1989]

Proclamation 5985—Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day, 1989

May 22, 1989

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

On Memorial Day, we pause to remember and to pray for those Americans who died while defending the peace and freedom we enjoy every day of the year. On this day, we recall with solemn pride the places where these departed heroes made their final stand for the cause of human rights and individual liberty—the Argonne, Omaha Beach, Pork Chop Hill, and a hundred rice paddies and jungles in Vietnam.

We also recall the heroes who have perished in more recent times, such as the soldiers who liberated Grenada and the Marines who fell to terrorist attacks in Beirut and other cities around the world. With the tragic loss still fresh in our minds, we remember the men of turret number two aboard the USS IOWA, the six sailors on the USS WHITE PLAINS, and the two crewmen on the USS AMERICA who were recently killed in the line of duty. Like the brave and selfless Americans who have gone before them, these young men were willing to put themselves in harm's way to protect our national security.

Across the country, Americans are participating in special ceremonies or pausing pri-

vately to pray for those who died while serving this great Nation. Some of us had close personal ties to the men and women we honor today; all of us are bound to them by a lasting debt of gratitude.

Today, we continue the Memorial Day tradition of expressing our appreciation for the veterans who died for a cause they considered more important than life itself. They did not serve in order to die; they served so that others might dwell in freedom. These veterans defended the lives of innocent people and helped to preserve a way of life—one that cherishes and protects the God-given rights of all. Their time on earth was well spent.

On Memorial Day, we give thanks for the great blessings of freedom and peace and for the generations of Americans who have won them for us. We also pray for the same strength and moral resolve demonstrated by these hallowed veterans, as well as for the true and lasting peace found in a world where liberty and justice prevail.

In respect and recognition of those Americans to whom we pay tribute today, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved on May 11, 1950 (64 Stat. 158), has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace and designating a period on that day when the people of the United States might unite in prayer.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Memorial Day, May 29, 1989, as a day of prayer for permanent peace, and I designate the hour beginning in each locality at 11 o'clock in the morning of that day as a time to unite in prayer. I urge the press, radio, television, and all other information media to cooperate in this observance.

I also direct all appropriate Federal officials and request the Governors of the several States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the appropriate officials of all units of government, to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff until noon during this Memorial Day on all buildings, grounds, and naval vessels throughout the United States and in all areas under its jurisdiction and control, and I request the people of the United States to display the flag at half-staff

from their homes on this day for the customary forenoon period.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:48 a.m., May 23, 1989]

Remarks at a White House Dinner Honoring the Nation's Governors

May 22, 1989

Good evening everybody. Fellow public servants, politicians, stemwinding orators—*[laughter]*—it's a tough group to speak with, but look, it's an honor to welcome you to what Franklin Roosevelt called the house owned by all the people and which Harry Truman termed the finest prison in the world. *[Laughter]* Incidentally, Barbara and I don't feel that way about this magnificent place. We love it, and please, don't any one of you attempt to do anything about that. *[Laughter]*

I want to commend Governor Baliles for his leadership of the NGA [National Governors' Association], and let me pass our best wishes to Terry Branstad, who's coming in. As you know, Henry Bellmon—I didn't see Henry tonight, but he'll like this one—his fellow Oklahoman Will Rogers once said, "Politics isn't worrying this country one-tenth as much as parking space." *[Laughter]* What he meant was that often Washington loses perspective and we forget what matters: people and their concerns. I concluded long ago that as Governors you are where the action is. And there's always a budget to be balanced or a school to be built, or you've got to find what works. And I, too, like what works. And I try to understand your problems; and if I didn't, I have a hunch that one of your own, John Sununu, my able Chief of Staff, would help me out on that.

But as we gather here tonight beneath a painting which forms a study in how problems can be met and overcome, and I'm talking of course about Healy's magnificent painting of Abraham Lincoln about the end of the War Between the States, it makes a profound impression on me. Incidentally, there's another variety of this painting upstairs that some of you have seen. And it's the exact same pose. But in the one upstairs, he's conferring with his three generals, but in exactly the same pose as this one, except there's a rainbow, which signifies the end of this war that divided us and symbolizes hope for the future. But Lincoln, as I'm sure for others of you, is one of my favorite Presidents, and I know most Americans feel that way. But I'm reminded daily of him, for so often we pass the room which served as his office upstairs. As he abolished slavery, he saved the Union, and he preserved for future generations the canons of democracy. And in this painting you get a feeling, I think, of his agony and his greatness. In fact, all around it, you feel a sweep of history when you're in this marvelous building, and of the men and women who acted boldly, courageously to write the pages of our history. I believe that our pages, too, can be extraordinary, pages that you all are writing—Barbara and I in some way might be writing.

You look around at the world today—and we were chatting about this here—the fascinating changes that are taking place—obviously in the Soviet Union, but clearly today in China. Bar and I lived there in 1974 and 1975, and if anybody had predicted that the force of democracy was such that you'd see a million kids in Tiananmen Square—and nobody would have believed it back then and here they are. You look at the changes inside the Soviet Union. You look at the accord in Angola. You look at Panama, where really almost for the first time you've seen this tremendous expression of the democratic will of the people, and then see that aborted by a totalitarian. And then see the countries in Central America unite in a resolution at the OAS [Organization of American States], condemning this kind of behavior, because they themselves sense this inexorable move to democracy. And we are living in very, very exciting times.

And around the globe, leaders are learning what you already know: To survive, government must be responsive and responsible, for if not, the people are gonna find leaders who are. And that's why we have the marvelous device called a free election. And it's not easy, of course.

But sometimes you, I know, must feel as Lincoln did. One night, a stranger found him in the street with two of his sons, both of whom were sobbing uncontrollably. "Whatever is the matter with the boys, Mr. Lincoln?" a stranger asked. He sighed and observed, "Just what's the matter with the whole world. I've got three walnuts, and each wants two." Well, that's the way our business is. That's the way it is for Governors, and that's the way it is with the President of the United States. We're pulled in countless directions, but we treasure these American lessons. Democracy works; our system works. It works in Dover or in Des Moines; it works in Portland, Richmond—Portland, Oregon; Portland, Maine. And it works because when it comes to problem-solving Washington does not know best; the people do.

Jefferson wrote: "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." Let us use that liberty to find solutions, to find what works, enrich our lives. And in that spirit, I ask all of you to raise your glasses to the American people and to you, the Governors, their trustees, and to the American system that remains after 200 years the greatest in the history of the world, the model for nations struggling to be free this very day.

Thank you all for being with us: Jerry, and to you, sir, and all the Governors, Barbara and I salute you and extend to you our most profound respects.

Note: The President spoke at 9:40 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Governors Gerald L. Baliles of Virginia and Terry Branstad of Iowa, chairman and vice chairman of the National Governors' Association, respectively. The President also referred to Gov. Henry Bellmon of Oklahoma.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders on
Savings and Loan Financing Legislation
May 22, 1989**

Dear _____:

I am writing to secure the assistance of the House leadership in resolving the current crisis in the savings and loan industry. At present, several hundred insolvent savings and loans cannot be permanently restructured or closed without passage of new legislation. As Secretary Brady has indicated, each day's delay adds more than \$10 million to the cost of this enormous problem. Delay also jeopardizes the confidence in our financial system that expeditious enactment of this legislation was intended to sustain.

On February 6, I asked the Congress "to join me in a determined effort to resolve this threat to the American financial system permanently, and to do so without delay." During my address to a Joint Session of Congress on February 9, I asked that this vital legislation be enacted within 45 days. Shortly thereafter my Administration forwarded comprehensive legislation to Congress to implement this program.

The Senate moved rapidly and, on April 19, 1989, passed legislation very similar to our proposal. In the House, the legislation has been thoroughly debated in the full Banking Committee, the Financial Institutions Subcommittee, and the Ways and Means Committee. Now is the time for the House to act, yet this vital measure still has not been scheduled for floor consideration. At the estimated rate of ongoing losses, more than \$330 million in additional taxpayer costs have been incurred since Senate passage.

I ask your cooperation to secure the following actions:

First, the legislation should be reported promptly to the House floor under a rule that expedites passage. Further delay in final House passage of this bill would be both costly and unnecessary.

Second, I ask the leadership of the House to hold absolutely firm against any attempt to weaken those vital elements of the legislation which protect the American taxpayer from additional costs. Such elements include higher capital requirements, sound

accounting principles, and strengthened civil and criminal penalties against wrongdoing in insured institutions.

Third, I ask that the interests of American savers and taxpayers be held paramount. Special interest amendments that could weaken the safety and soundness of our financial system, or provisions that impose additional costs for otherwise worthy purposes such as housing subsidies, do not belong in this bill and should be deleted.

Finally, I urge Congress to resist efforts to reformulate the financing program adopted by both the House and Senate Banking Committees. Such efforts can only delay final passage of the legislation and could have undesirable economic consequences. This urgently needed legislation should not become the vehicle for undermining the spending discipline established by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law, which proved beneficial in the recent successful budget discussions between Congress and my Administration. This discipline will be essential to achieving our mutual budget deficit reduction goals in the future.

To date, Congress and the Executive Branch have worked cooperatively to protect our financial markets from instability and to avoid unnecessary costs. Indeed, bipartisan majorities in both the Senate and House have defeated determined special interest lobbying against the tough capital standards needed to protect American taxpayers from a repeat of this tragedy. I look forward to working with Congress in passing responsible legislation to resolve the current savings and loan crisis and to insure that this situation will not be repeated.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Note: Identical letters were sent to Jim Wright, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Thomas Foley and Robert H. Michel, majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives, respectively; and Tony Coelho and Newt Gingrich, majority and minority whips of the House of Representatives, respectively. The letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 23.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the President's Meeting with Chairman Wan Li of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress

May 23, 1989

The President today met with Wan Li, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Following the plenary meeting, Wan Li visited the Residence to greet Mrs. Bush.

The Chinese leader briefed the President on the outcome of the recent Sino-Soviet summit and on the student demonstrations in China. "We are strongly committed to democracy around the world," the President said. "It is the underpinning of our being as a nation. I urge nonviolence and restraint in your present situation. I urge that Voice of America not be jammed and that reporters be given open access."

The President told Chairman Wan that he remains personally committed to expanding the normal and constructive relations the United States enjoys with China. The world has a stake in China's economic progress, national security, and political vitality. The United States hopes to see the continuing implementation of economic and political reforms, which undoubtedly will also help advance these goals.

Nomination of Mark L. Edelman To Be Deputy Administrator of the Agency for International Development

May 23, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate Mark L. Edelman to be Deputy Administrator of the Agency for International Development, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency. He would succeed Jay F. Morris.

Since 1987 Mr. Edelman has served as Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon. Prior to this, he was Assistant Administrator for Africa at the Agency for International Development, 1984-1987, and senior adviser to the Administrator, and Executive Secretary, 1983-1984. He was Deputy Assistant

Secretary for the Bureau of International Organization Affairs at the Department of State, 1981-1983, and a program analyst for the Agency for International Development, 1981. He was a legislative assistant to Senator John C. Danforth in Washington, DC, 1977-1981. Mr. Edelman has served as State budget director in Jefferson City, MO, 1973-1976; budget examiner for the Bureau of the Budget in the Office of Management and Budget, 1968-1972; and a management intern and Africa budget analyst for the U.S. Information Agency, 1965-1967.

Mr. Edelman graduated from Oberlin College (A.B., 1965). He was born June 27, 1943, in St. Louis, MO. He is married to the former Nancy M. Wasell.

Message to the Congress Reporting on the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

May 23, 1989

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby report to the Congress on developments since the last report of November 15, 1988, concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order No. 12170 of November 14, 1979, and matters relating to Executive Order No. 12613 of October 29, 1987. This report is submitted pursuant to section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9. This report covers events through March 28, 1989, including those that occurred since the last report under Executive Order No. 12170 dated November 15, 1988. That report covered events through October 1, 1988.

1. Since the last report, there have been no amendments to the Iranian Assets Control Regulations, 31 C.F.R. Part 535 (the "IACRs"), or the Iranian Transactions Regulations, 31 C.F.R. Part 560 (the "ITRs"), administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control ("FAC"). The major focus of licensing activity under the ITRs remains the importation of certain non-fungible Iranian-origin goods, principally carpets, which

were located outside Iran before the embargo was imposed, and where no payment or benefit accrued to Iran after the effective date of the embargo. Since October 1, 1988, FAC has made 583 licensing determinations under the ITRs.

Numerous Customs Service detentions and seizures of Iranian-origin goods (including carpets, caviar, dates, pistachios, and gold) have taken place, and a number of FAC and Customs investigations into potential violations of the ITRs are pending. Several of the seizures have led to forfeiture actions and imposition of civil monetary penalties. An indictment has been issued in the case of *United States v. Benham Tahriri*, which is now pending in the United States District Court for the District of Vermont.

2. The Iran-United States Claims Tribunal (the "Tribunal"), established at The Hague pursuant to the Claims Settlement Agreement of January 19, 1981 (the "Algiers Accords"), continues to make progress in arbitrating the claims before it. Since the last report, the Tribunal has rendered 22 awards, for a total of 418 awards. Of that total, 308 have been awards in favor of American claimants: 193 of these were awards on agreed terms, authorizing and approving payment of settlements negotiated by the parties, and 115 were decisions adjudicated on the merits. The Tribunal has dismissed a total of 25 other claims on the merits and 56 for jurisdictional reasons. Of the 29 remaining awards, two represent withdrawals and 27 were in favor of Iranian claimants. As of March 28, 1989, awards to successful American claimants from the Security Account held by the NV Settlement Bank stood at \$1,136,444,726.00.

As of March 28, 1989, the Security Account has fallen below the required balance of \$500 million 25 times. Each time, Iran has replenished the account, as required by the Algiers Accords, by transferring funds from the separate account held by the NV Settlement Bank in which interest on the Security Account is deposited. Iran has also replenished the account once when it was not required by the Accords, for a total of 26 replenishments. The most recent replenishment as of March 28, 1989, occurred on March 22, 1989, in the amount of \$100,000, bringing the total in the Security Account to \$500,011,034.15. The aggregate amount

that has been transferred from the interest account to the Security Account is \$624,698,999.39. The amount in the interest account as of March 28, 1989, was \$128,220,636.82.

Iranian and U.S. arbitrators agreed on two neutral arbitrators to replace Professor Karl-Heinz Bockstiegel and Professor Michel Andre Virally, who had submitted letters of resignation. On December 16, 1988, Professor Bengt Broms of Finland replaced Professor Bockstiegel as Chairman of Chamber One, and on January 1, 1989, Professor Gaetano Arancio-Ruiz of Italy replaced Professor Virally as Chairman of Chamber Three. Professor Bockstiegel had also served as President of the Tribunal. After Iran and the United States were unable to agree on a new President of the Tribunal, former Netherlands Supreme Court Chief Judge Charles M.J.A. Moons, the appointing authority for the Tribunal, appointed Professor Robert Briner to the position on February 2, 1989. Professor Briner, who has been a member of the Tribunal since 1985, will continue to serve as Chairman of Chamber Two.

3. The Tribunal continues to make progress in the arbitration of claims of U.S. nationals for \$250,000 or more. Over 68 percent of the nonbank claims have now been disposed of through adjudication, settlement, or voluntary withdrawal, leaving 169 such claims on the docket. The largest of the large claims, the progress of which has been slowed by their complexity, are finally being decided, sometimes with sizable damage awards to the U.S. claimant. Since the last report, nine large claims have been decided. One U.S. company received an award on agreed terms of \$10,800,000.

4. The Tribunal continues to process claims of U.S. nationals against Iran of less than \$250,000 each. As of March 28, 1989, a total of 362 small claims have been resolved, 82 of them since the last report, as a result of decisions on the merits, awards on agreed terms, or Tribunal orders. One contested claim has been decided since the last report, raising the total number of contested claims decided to 24, 15 of which favored the American claimant. These decisions will help in establishing guidelines for the adjudication or settlement of similar

claims. To date, American claimants have also received 56 awards on agreed terms reflecting settlements of claims under \$250,000.

The Tribunal's current small claims docket includes approximately 185 active cases. It is anticipated that the Tribunal will issue new scheduling orders later this spring to bring its active docket to approximately 225 active cases.

5. In coordination with concerned government agencies, the Department of State continues to present United States Government claims against Iran, as well as responses by the United States Government to claims brought against it by Iran. Since the last report, the Department has filed pleadings in eight government-to-government claims, and presented one claim at a hearing before the Tribunal. In addition, two claims have been settled.

6. Since the last report, nine bank syndicates have completed negotiations with Bank Markazi Jomhouri Islami Iran ("Bank Markazi," Iran's central bank) and have been paid a total of \$11,235,741.87 for interest accruing for the period January 1-18, 1981 ("January Interest"). These payments were made from Dollar Account No. 1 at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, ("FRBNY"). Moreover, under the April 13, 1988, agreement between the FRBNY and Bank Markazi, the FRBNY returned \$7,295,823.58 of Iranian funds to Bank Markazi. That transfer represents the excess of amounts reserved in Dollar Account No. 1 to pay off each bank syndicate with a claim for January Interest against Bank Markazi.

7. The situation reviewed above continues to implicate important diplomatic, financial, and legal interests of the United States and its nationals and presents an unusual challenge to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. The Iranian Assets Control Regulations issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 12170 continue to play an important role in structuring our relationship with Iran and in enabling the United States properly to implement the Algiers Accords. Similarly, the Iranian Transactions Regulations issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 12613 continue to advance important objectives in combatting international terrorism. I shall continue to exercise the powers at my disposal to deal

with these problems and will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments.

George Bush

The White House,
May 23, 1989.

Remarks at the Annual Dinner of the White House News Photographers Association

May 23, 1989

Marlin says it's okay to talk; this will be a modified photo op. [*Laughter*] Actually, I dropped in to see if my prints were ready. [*Laughter*] It's no secret that I'm a great fan of the White House photographers. After all, the first 100 days were saved by those puppy pictures. [*Laughter*] An animal lover like me doesn't lightly bestow a fond nickname like "photo dogs." I know that your space is cramped there in the West Wing. Some of the photographers, as a matter of fact, asked if they could set up a darkroom someplace where nothing much is happening. I was all for it until they suggested the Oval Office. [*Laughter*]

And you know, Larry asked me to help hand out the awards a little later on here. And I saw the list, and, yes, it's an impressive group. But some key categories got overlooked. And so, I talked it over with the photo general of the United States, David Valdez, and tonight I'm proud to announce the first annual Presidential Photographers Awards. Very serious business here. With Oscars, you get a gold statuette. Grammys, a record player—and Golden Globes. And here it is, this 9-inch step ladder—[*laughter*]—highly coveted. This is the highly coveted Golden Step Ladder Award. [*Laughter*]

We start with the photo dog fashion awards. I asked Director of the CIA Bill Webster why Air Force One never gets taken over by terrorists. And he said, "The bad guys take one look at the way the photographers are dressed and figure that the plane's already been hijacked." [*Laughter*]

There are some exceptions. The first runner-up for this coveted award for the

best dressed photographer goes to Time's Diana Walker, affectionately known as Lady Di. She has that "12 days on safari in Botswana" look that you're all striving for. [Laughter] She's the one that did that photo essay last week called "Twelve Hours With George Bush." She claimed it felt like the first 100 days.

But anyway, the winner of this coveted award—she only was runner-up—goes to one of Diana's colleagues, Dirck Halstead. [Laughter] Now, Dirck has never been suspected of being a terrorist because the Secret Service says that, while terrorists do at times wear Guccis, rarely if ever are their blue jeans starched and pressed. [Laughter]

Now, there's a corollary of Murphy's Law, which White House photographers have a knack for proving: Under any conditions, anywhere, whatever you are doing, there is some ordinance under which you can be booked. And so, the 1989 First Amendment Award, coveted award for freedom of expression, goes to the CNN [Cable News Network] cameraman arrested on a pool stakeout this month outside a high security installation—Joe & Moe's. [Laughter] And let's hear it for Albert Certo of CNN. [Applause] Can someone please remove his handcuffs, because we want him ready for the picture.

Those looking for proof of a kinder and gentler America need only look around the White House press room at the number of people napping. [Laughter] And I stopped speaking at photo ops because I was afraid I'd wake up the dozing cameramen. But we call the next award the Rip Van Winkle Award, coveted award given each year to the photographer who earns the most overtime while asleep. [Laughter] The competition in this category was tough. [Laughter] And the final rankings—and this was scientifically done—are John Bullard of ABC—[Laughter]—Percy Arrington of NBC, and CNN's Hank Disselkamp. Win, place, and show—a photo finish if there ever was one. Sleep on, out there.

Now, that's not an easy job. Two months ago, a U.S. News and World Report photographer took a fall off the East Room press platform. He said he was okay until I said, "Scratch one newsman." But then he bounced back and carries more equipment

than any other 3 photographers combined. For from U.S. News and World Report, the winner of this year's Arnold Schwarzenegger Award—[laughter]—Darryl Heikes.

The competition is intense among the news magazines. It was Darryl himself who suggested that U.S. News come out with its first annual swimsuit issue. [Laughter] Can't quite see Mort Zuckerman in thongs, but—[laughter].

And I'm constantly impressed by the ingenuity of this White House press corps. Take the runner-up for our last award, lighting man Marvin Purbaugh of NBC. Marvin recently became the first American to actually produce 1,000 points of light. [Laughter] He lit the Roosevelt Room by bouncing the kleigs off Marlin's head. [Laughter]

And our final award is named for the well-known Milo Minderbinder, the irrepressible entrepreneur on Catch-22. The winner—you guessed it—has sold key chains to tourists—[laughter]—luggage tags to local reporters, press passes to foreign media. [Laughter] And so, give me a hand for this unanimous winner of the 1989 Milo Award, Mr. Opportunity Society himself, the guy that's giving entrepreneurship a bad name—[laughter]—Newsweek's own Larry Downing, the only guy who gets his trips on Air Force One counted as frequent flyer miles. [Laughter] No, one of the things I do like about Larry, though, is his loyalty. In Beijing, the microphones picked up his patriotic challenge to some Chinese security guards: "Stop pushing me," he said. "Our President may sound like an idiot, but he's our President, and we're going to take pictures of him." [Laughter] Thanks a lot, Larry. [Laughter]

Marlin will see that you receive these coveted awards. But right now, I'd like all these lucky winners to stand up. Diana and Dirck, Albert, John, Percy, Hank, Darryl, Marvin, and Larry. Bad sports—only two of them stood up.

No, but as these awards suggest, the various characters—and I use the word advisedly—assembled in this room probably make up about as diverse a collection of personalities as ever found in a single profession. But over the years, I've observed certain qualities that you do have in common: the

determination as well as the ability to work hard; take an elbow, give one in return, Cynthia; a willingness to go the extra mile, even on the slimmest chance that it will produce a memorable shot; grace under pressure—and I mean it—and a total belief in your work. And more importantly, more personally, the very name that I've bestowed, "photo dogs"—and you've adopted—say a lot about the good-natured relationship that we enjoy and the good will that's shared on both sides.

And I will say this from the bottom of a grateful heart, knowing the Bush family as you do now, I have always appreciated the thoughtfulness and the consideration and the kindness that you have shown to our family and, indeed, the kindness and consideration that you have shown in our quest for privacy from time to time. And that means a great deal. So, thank you all. It's time to declare a lid. And any followup questions can go to Rich Little—and I'm scared to death. [Laughter] Thank you all. And lights, please.

Note: The President spoke at 9:20 p.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Marlin Fitzwater, the President's Press Secretary; Larry A. Rubenstein, chairman of the awards dinner and assistant picture editor at Reuters; David Valdez, the President's photographer; Cynthia Johnson and Dirck Halstead, photographers for Time magazine; and entertainer Rich Little.

Proclamation 5986—National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the USS IOWA

May 24, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each day, on land, at sea, and in the air, the men and women of the United States Armed Forces stand watch. They keep a constant vigil for our security and for the peace and freedom with which we have been blessed. Theirs is an awesome respon-

sibility. Our soldiers, sailors, and airmen are not only indispensable pillars of our national defense, but also visible symbols of our commitment to the principles of liberty, self-determination, and democratic government.

On the world's oceans, even the routine of daily operation is not without substantial hazard for our sailors and marines. The fallen crew members of the USS IOWA understood the risks they would face while serving our country, yet they chose to accept them. They were patriots and professionals.

The people of the United States will long remember the 47 young men killed by the tragic explosion on board the USS IOWA. We shall remember them for their bravery and selflessness, just as we remember the many honored veterans who have gone before them. They served this country with pride and purpose, and we must never forget the sacrifices they made for our sake.

In solemn recognition of the valiant crew members of the USS IOWA who lost their lives on April 19, 1989, and in order to extend to their families the American people's heartfelt sympathy, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 247, has designated Memorial Day, May 29, 1989, as the "National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the USS IOWA." House Joint Resolution 247 also authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, May 29, 1989, as the National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the USS IOWA. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:29 a.m., May 25, 1989]

**Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater
on the President's Meeting With
Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin of
Israel**

May 24, 1989

The President just completed a productive half-hour meeting with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin. President Bush reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to a close relationship with our long-term friend and strategic partner Israel. Toward this end, the President made clear his determination to provide Israel with the resources necessary for its security.

The two leaders also discussed the situation in the West Bank and Gaza. The President told Defense Minister Rabin that the recent elections proposal put forward by the Government of Israel constitutes an important contribution to a process that has the potential to bring about negotiations leading to a comprehensive settlement consistent with Israeli security and Palestinian political rights. The President noted that the Israeli elections proposal gives us something to work with, and we are now looking for a constructive Arab response to it. The President also voiced his deep concern over the escalating violence in the occupied territories and expressed the strong hope that all parties would exercise maximum restraint.

**Remarks at the United States Coast
Guard Academy Commencement
Ceremony in New London,
Connecticut**

May 24, 1989

Thank you all very much. And Mr. Superintendent, my friend, Rick, thank you for inviting me here. Thank all of the—particularly those in the white uniforms who are fixing to move on for that warm welcome. To Admiral Yost, the Commandant, and Secretary [of Transportation] Skinner, Dr. Alex Haley, and all the distinguished, broke, but happy parents sitting over here—[laughter]—this is a special day. I want to single out Admiral Cueroni, who will be leaving the service that he has served so

well. And it was my pleasure as Vice President of the United States to work directly with him when he headed the south Florida effort fighting narcotics. And he showed us a lot of class then, and he showed the country a lot of class for his many years in service to the Coast Guard.

I want to congratulate each member of this year's class on receiving your commission into such a proud service. You mention the Coast Guard, and most people think about lives saved at sea, daring rescue operations; but those daily acts of heroism are just one part of the vital work that this Coast Guard performs. Right now, in Prince William Sound, the Coast Guard continues to work around the clock in a major environmental cleanup. And let me at this point, on behalf of a grateful nation, commend Admiral Yost. Through his personal commitment, his involvement, and the leadership that he has shown, he has served his country in the finest tradition of the United States Coast Guard. And those of us who care about the environment—and that is 250 million Americans at a minimum—he's showing us the way. And your service—backing him up in every way. And I am very proud of what Paul Yost has done.

Right now, off the Florida coast, Coast Guard patrols are chasing down drug smugglers, helping to keep the drugs off the streets. And that may be all in a day's work for the Coast Guard, but it is absolutely vital to our national health, our well-being, and our security.

I'm sure on that long first day of Swab Summer that you never thought 4 years could pass so quickly, but they have. And you've worked hard. Billet Night has come and gone—[laughter]—and you're ready—Semper Paratus, in the words of your motto—ready to enter the Coast Guard service, enter the world. And the truth is, that's what commencement is all about. The world is yours, and today's ceremony is really part of the change of command from one generation to the next.

Today our world—your world—is changing, East and West. And today I want to speak to you about the world we want to see and what we can do to bring that new world into clear focus.

We live in a time when we are witnessing the end of an idea: the final chapter of the Communist experiment. Communism is now recognized, even by many within the Communist world itself, as a failed system, one that promised economic prosperity but failed to deliver the goods, a system that built a wall between the people and their political aspirations. But the eclipse of communism is only one-half of the story of our time. The other is the ascendancy of the democratic idea. Never before has the idea of freedom so captured the imaginations of men and women the world over, and never before has the hope of freedom beckoned so many—trade unionists in Warsaw, the people of Panama, rulers consulting the ruled in the Soviet Union. And even as we speak today, the world is transfixed by the dramatic events in Tiananmen Square. Everywhere those voices are speaking the language of democracy and freedom. And we hear them, and the world hears them. And America will do all it can to encourage them.

So, today I want to speak about our security strategy for the 1990's, one that advances American ideals and upholds American aims. Amidst the many challenges we'll face, there will be risks. But let me assure you, we'll find more than our share of opportunities. We and our allies are strong, stronger really than at any point in the postwar period, and more capable than ever of supporting the cause of freedom. There's an opportunity before us to shape a new world.

What is it that we want to see? It is a growing community of democracies anchoring international peace and stability, and a dynamic free-market system generating prosperity and progress on a global scale. The economic foundation of this new era is the proven success of the free market, and nurturing that foundation are the values rooted in freedom and democracy. Our country, America, was founded on these values, and they gave us the confidence that flows from strength. So, let's be clear about one thing: America looks forward to the challenge of an emerging global market. But these values are not ours alone; they are now shared by our friends and allies around the globe.

The economic rise of Europe and the nations of the Pacific Rim is the growing success of our postwar policy. This time is a time of tremendous opportunity, and destiny is in our own hands. To reach the world we want to see, we've got to work, and work hard. There's a lot of work ahead of us. We must resolve international trade problems that threaten to pit friends and allies against one another. We must combat misguided notions of economic nationalism that will tell us to close off our economies to foreign competition, just when the global marketplace has become a fact of life. We must open the door to the nations of Eastern Europe and other Socialist countries that embrace free market reforms. And finally, for developing nations heavily burdened with debt, we must provide assistance and encourage the market reforms that will set those nations on a path towards growth.

If we succeed, the next decade and the century beyond will be an era of unparalleled growth, an era which sees the flourishing of freedom, peace, and prosperity around the world. But this new era cannot unfold in a climate where conflict and turmoil exist. And therefore, our goals must also include security and stability: security for ourselves and our allies and our friends, stability in the international arena and an end to regional conflicts.

Such goals are constant, but the strategy we employ to reach them can and must change as the world changes.

Today the need for a dynamic and adaptable strategy is imperative. We must be strong—economically, diplomatically, and, as you know, militarily—to take advantage of the opportunities open to us in a world of rapid change. And nowhere will the ultimate consequences of change have more significance for world security than within the Soviet Union itself.

What we're seeing now in the Soviet Union is indeed dramatic. The process is still ongoing, unfinished. But make no mistake: Our policy is to seize every—and I mean every—opportunity to build a better, more stable relationship with the Soviet Union, just as it is our policy to defend American interests in light of the enduring reality of Soviet military power. We want to

see *perestroika* succeed. And we want to see the policies of *glasnost* and *perestroika*—so far, a revolution imposed from top down—institutionalized within the Soviet Union. And we want to see *perestroika* extended as well. We want to see a Soviet Union that restructures its relationship toward the rest of the world—a Soviet Union that is a force for constructive solutions to the world's problems.

The grand strategy of the West during the postwar period has been based on the concept of containment: checking the Soviet Union's expansionist aims, in the hope that the Soviet system itself would one day be forced to confront its internal contradictions. The ferment in the Soviet Union today affirms the wisdom of this strategy. And now we have a precious opportunity to move beyond containment. You're graduating into an exciting world, where the opportunity for world peace, lasting peace, has never been better. Our goal, integrating the Soviet Union into the community of nations, is every bit as ambitious as containment was at its time. And it holds tremendous promise for international stability.

Coping with a changing Soviet Union will be a challenge of the highest order. But the security challenges we face today do not come from the East alone. The emergence of regional powers is rapidly changing the strategic landscape. In the Middle East, in south Asia, in our own hemisphere, a growing number of nations are acquiring advanced and highly destructive capabilities, in some cases, weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them. And it is an unfortunate fact that the world faces increasing threat from armed insurgencies, terrorists, and, as you in the Coast Guard are well aware, narcotics traffickers—and in some regions, an unholy alliance of all three.

Our task is clear: We must curb the proliferation of advanced weaponry. We must check the aggressive ambitions of renegade regimes, and we must enhance the ability of our friends to defend themselves. We have not yet mastered the complex challenge. We and our allies must construct a common strategy for stability in the developing world.

How we and our allies deal with these diverse challenges depends on how well we understand the key elements of defense strategy. And so, let me just mention today two points in particular: first, the need for an effective deterrent, one that demonstrates to our allies and adversaries alike American strength, American resolve; and second, the need to maintain an approach to arms reduction that promotes stability at the lowest feasible level of armaments.

Deterrence is central to our defense strategy. The key to keeping the peace is convincing our adversaries that the cost of aggression against us or our allies is simply unacceptable. In today's world, nuclear forces are essential to deterrence. Our challenge is to protect those deterrent systems from attack. And that's why we'll move Peacekeeper ICBM's out of fixed and vulnerable silos, making them mobile and thus harder to target. Looking to the longer term, we will also develop and deploy a new highly mobile single-warhead missile, the Midgetman. With only minutes of warnings, these new missiles can relocate out of harm's way. Any attack against systems like this will fail. We are also researching—and we are committed to deploy when ready—a more comprehensive defensive system, known as SDI. Our premise is straightforward: Defense against incoming missiles endangers no person, endangers no country.

We're also working to reduce the threat we face, both nuclear and conventional. The INF treaty demonstrates that willingness. In addition, in the past decade, NATO has unilaterally removed 2400 shorter range theater warheads. But theater nuclear forces contribute to stability, no less than strategic forces, and thus it would be irresponsible to depend solely on strategic nuclear forces to deter conflict in Europe. The conventional balance in Europe is just as important and is linked to the nuclear balance. For more than 40 years—and look at your history books to see how pronounced this accomplishment is—for more than 40 years the Warsaw Pact's massive advantage in conventional forces has cast a shadow over Europe.

The unilateral reduction that President Gorbachev has promised give us hope that we can now redress that imbalance. We

welcome those steps because if implemented they will help reduce the threat of surprise attack. And they confirm what we've said all along: that Soviet military power far exceeds the levels needed to defend the legitimate security interests of the U.S.S.R. And we must keep in mind that these reductions alone, even if implemented, are not enough to eliminate the significant numerical superiority that the Soviet Union enjoys right now.

Through negotiation, we can now transform the military landscape of Europe. The issues are complex, stakes are very high. But the Soviets are now being forthcoming, and we hope to achieve the reductions that we seek. Let me emphasize: Our aim is nothing less than removing war as an option in Europe.

The U.S.S.R. has said that it is willing to abandon its age-old reliance on offensive strategy. It's time to begin. This should mean a smaller force, one less reliant on tanks and artillery and personnel carriers that provide the Soviets' offensive striking power. A restructured Warsaw Pact, one that mirrors the defensive posture of NATO, would make Europe and the world more secure.

Peace can also be enhanced by movement towards more openness in military activities. And 2 weeks ago, I proposed an "open skies" initiative to extend the concept of openness. That plan for territorial overflights would increase our mutual security against sudden and threatening military activities. In the same spirit, let us extend this openness to military expenditures as well. I call on the Soviets to do as we have always done. Let's open the ledgers: Publish an accurate defense budget. But as we move forward we must be realistic. Transformations of this magnitude will not happen overnight. If we are to reach our goals, a great deal is required of us, our allies, and of the Soviet Union. But we can succeed.

I began today by speaking about the triumph of a particular, peculiar, very special American ideal: freedom. And I know there are those who may think there's something presumptuous about that claim, those who will think it's boastful. But it is not, for one simple reason: Democracy isn't our creation; it is our inheritance. And we can't

take credit for democracy, but we can take that precious gift of freedom, preserve it, and pass it on, as my generation does to you, and you, too, will do one day. And perhaps, provided we seize the opportunities open to us, we can help others attain the freedom that we cherish.

As I said on the Capitol steps the day I took this office, as President of the United States: "There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people." As your Commander in Chief, let me call on this Coast Guard class to reaffirm with me that American power will continue in its service to the enduring ideals of democracy and freedom. Congratulations to each and every one of you. Thank you, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very much.

Note: The President spoke at 12:13 p.m. on Nitchman Field at the Academy. He was introduced by Rear Adm. Richard P. Cueroni, Superintendent of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. In his opening remarks, the President referred to Adm. Paul A. Yost, Jr., Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; Secretary of Transportation Samuel K. Skinner; and author Alex P. Haley, who received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from the Academy.

Proclamation 5987—National Safe Boating Week, 1989

May 24, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The lure of the open water attracts increasing numbers of Americans to the scenic waterways of our country each year. Recreational boating has become one of this Nation's most popular leisure-time activities. It is estimated that more than 70 million Americans will take to the water this year to enjoy fishing, hunting, waterskiing, cruising, sailing, and other activities involving the use of a boat.

Unfortunately, an improperly handled boat can be a dangerous or even deadly

instrument. More than one thousand persons die each year on our country's lakes, rivers, streams, oceans, and bays. National Safe Boating Week is proclaimed, therefore, as an appeal to all Americans to respect the marine environment and to operate watercraft in a safe and prudent manner.

Boating remains one of the least regulated transportation activities, making it imperative that all pilots be familiar with safe operating procedures as well as the rules and courtesies of the waterways. Because safe boating is not a simple proposition and because there is much information every operator needs to know before going out on the water, the theme of the 1989 National Safe Boating Week is "Know Before You Go." All boaters, especially those who operate small vessels for fishing, hunting, and other sports, need to know the craft they are using and the environment in which they will be operating. Most important, all boaters should know their own personal limitations and responsibilities so they do not lead themselves and others into situations beyond their skill or physical endurance.

The majority of boating accidents are the result of pilot error; ignorance and intoxication are major threats to safety. Boaters should be aware that operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is not only dangerous and irresponsible, but also a Federal offense punishable by substantial civil and criminal penalties. Those using watercraft must be well-informed, sober, and prepared to deal with hazardous situations.

Safe boating is the responsibility of everyone who uses America's waterways. Let us all join with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons, the American Red Cross Water Safety Program, and the other member organizations of the National Safe Boating Council in making National Safe Boating Week the start of a major campaign to educate boaters to "know before they go."

In recognition of the need for boating safety, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved June 4, 1958 (36 U.S.C. 161), as amended, authorized and requested the President to proclaim annually the week commencing on the first Sunday in June as National Safe Boating Week.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning June 4, 1989, as National Safe Boating Week. I also invite the Governors of the States, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa and the Mayor of the District of Columbia to provide for the observance of this week.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:33 p.m., May 25, 1989]

Note: The proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 25.

Nomination of C. Austin Fitts To Be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

May 25, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate C. Austin Fitts to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (Federal Housing Commissioner). He would succeed Thomas T. Demery.

Since 1978 Mr. Fitts has served in several capacities with Dillion, Read & Co., Inc., in New York City, including managing director, 1986 to present; senior vice president, 1984-1986; vice president, 1982-1984; and an associate, 1978-1982.

Mr. Fitts graduated from Bennett College (A.A., 1970), the University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1974), and the Wharton School of Business (M.B.A., 1978). He was born in 1950 in Philadelphia, PA, and resides in New York City.

Appointment of Barbara H. Franklin as a Member of the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations
May 25, 1989

The President today announced his intention to appoint Barbara Hackman Franklin to be a member of the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations for a term of 2 years. She would succeed Lawrence A. Bossidy.

Ms. Franklin is currently president and chief executive officer of Franklin Associates, a Washington-based management consulting firm, which she founded in 1984. Since 1979, she has been senior fellow of the Wharton School of Business, of the University of Pennsylvania; and for 8 years she served as director of the Wharton government and business program. Ms. Franklin has served two terms on the Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations, 1982-1986, and has chaired its Task Force on Tax Reform. In addition, Ms. Franklin serves in various capacities, including member of the Services Policy Advisory Committee; adviser to the Comptroller General of the United States; and a member of the board of visitors of the Defense Systems Management College. In 1973, Ms. Franklin served as one of the first Commissioners of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Ms. Franklin graduated from Pennsylvania State University (B.A., 1962) and Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration (M.B.A., 1964). She was born in Lancaster, PA. She is married to Wallace Barnes, and the couple resides in Washington, DC.

Designation of Linda A. Skladany as Acting Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
May 25, 1989

The President today designated Linda Arey Skladany to be Acting Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. She would succeed Elliot Ross Buckley.

Since 1988 Mrs. Skladany has served as Commissioner for the Occupational Safety

and Health Review Commission. She has served as the Republican candidate for Congress for the Fifth District of Virginia, 1987-1988. She has served on the Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations, 1988-1989, and Special Assistant to the President, and Deputy Director for Public Liaison at the White House, 1985-1987. She was Director of the Executive Secretariat at the Department of Transportation, 1984-1985; Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary at the Department of Transportation, 1983-1984; Special Assistant at the Department of Justice, 1982-1983; and a Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary at the Department of Education, 1981-1982.

Mrs. Skladany graduated from the College of William and Mary (B.A., 1966); Wake Forest University (M.A., 1975); and the University of Richmond School of Law (J.D., 1977). She was born November 25, 1944. She is married and resides in Alexandria, VA.

Nomination of Fred T. Goldberg, Jr., To Be Commissioner of Internal Revenue
May 25, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate Fred T. Goldberg, Jr., to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue at the Department of the Treasury. He would succeed Lawrence B. Gibbs.

Since 1984 Mr. Goldberg has served as Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service. He served as a partner with Latham, Watkins, and Hills in Washington, DC., 1982-1984. He served as Assistant to the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, 1981-1982; Acting Director of Legislation and Regulations Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, 1982; and partner with Latham, Watkins and Hills in Washington, DC., 1981. He has also served as an associate with Latham, Watkins and Hills, 1973-1981; as an instructor in political science and economics at Yale College, 1971-1973; as assistant dean, Calhoun College, Yale University, 1971-

1973; and as special assistant to the Assistant Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity for Programs Planning and Evaluation, 1970.

He graduated from Yale University (B.A., 1969; J.D., 1973). Mr. Goldberg was born on October 15, 1947. He is married, has four children, and resides in Bethesda, MD.

Nomination of Edward J. Perkins To Be Director General of the Foreign Service

May 25, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate Edward Joseph Perkins, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Director General of the Foreign Service at the Department of State. He would succeed George Southall Vest.

Since 1986 Ambassador Perkins has served as Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. Prior to this he served as Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia, 1985-1986. He was Director of the Office of West African Affairs in the Bureau of African Affairs at the Department of State, 1983-1985; Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia, 1981-1983; counselor for political affairs in Accra, Ghana, 1978-1981; and management analysis officer for the Office of Management Operations at the Department of State, 1975-1978. He was administrative officer for the Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, 1974-1975; personnel officer in the Office of the Director General, 1972-1974; and Deputy Assistant Director for Management of the U.S. Operations Mission in Thailand, 1970-1972.

Ambassador Perkins served in the U.S. Army for 3 years and the U.S. Marine Corps for 4 years. He graduated from the University of Maryland (B.A., 1967) and the University of Southern California (M.P.A., 1972; D.P.A., 1978). He is married and has two children.

Remarks Upon Departure for the Trip to Europe

May 26, 1989

Well, I depart for Europe this morning to meet with all our North Atlantic allies and also to pay visits to Italy, Germany, and the United Kingdom for discussions with leaders of those alliance nations on issues of common interest. I'm especially pleased that my first visit to Europe as President is to celebrate the 40th anniversary of NATO [North Atlantic Treaty Organization]. America is a proud partner in the Atlantic alliance, and American interests have been well served by the alliance.

Twice in the first half of this century Europe was the scene of world war, and twice Americans fought in Europe for the sake of peace and freedom. Today Europe is enjoying a period of unparalleled prosperity and uninterrupted peace, longer than it has known in the modern age, and NATO has made the difference. And the alliance will prove every bit as important to American and European security in the decade ahead. The importance of the alliance and its democratic underpinnings is the message I now take to Europe. NATO has been a success by any measure, but success breeds its own challenges. Today dramatic changes are taking place in Europe, both East and West. For us, those changes bring new challenges and unparalleled opportunities.

For too long, unnatural and inhuman barriers have divided the East from the West. And we hope to overcome that division, to see a Europe that is truly free, united, and at peace. We are ready to work with a united Europe, to extend the peace and prosperity we enjoy to other parts of the world. And we hope to move beyond containment: to integrate the Soviet Union into the community of nations. We welcome the political and economic liberalization that has taken place so far in the Soviet Union and in some countries of Eastern Europe. We will encourage more changes to follow.

Many common concerns confront us. Beyond the traditional economic and security spheres, we and our partners in the alliance are working hard on a growing international agenda, from a common approach to environmental protection to cooperation

against drug trafficking and against terrorism. We also welcome Europe's progress towards a truly common market and a growing European cooperation on security issues as the basis of an even more dynamic transatlantic partnership. As we approach 1992, it is essential that we work with our European partners to ensure an open and expanding world trading system, and that we take strong steps to prevent trade disputes from obscuring our common political and security concerns. NATO is based on the many bonds between us: our shared heritage, history, and culture; our shared commitment to freedom, democracy, and the rights of the individual. Barbara and I are looking forward to visiting Europe.

Thank you all very much.

Note: The President spoke at 7:07 a.m. on the tarmac at Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, MD, prior to boarding Air Force One.

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.

May 18

The President declared that a major disaster exists in North Carolina as a result of tornadoes that struck on May 5-6. He directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to supplement State and local recovery efforts.

The President sent to the Congress requests for fiscal year 1990 amended budget requests totalling \$245.9 million. Included in this package were the following:

- \$68.6 million for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This request would provide \$42.9 million to provide health professional training for minority students and \$25.8

million to maintain support for research and training for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. The increased fiscal year 1990 outlays resulting from these proposals would be offset by a reduction in another HHS program.

- \$59.3 million for the Department of Agriculture and \$124 million for the Department of the Interior to implement the Federal recreational land acquisition initiative that was included in the President's February 9, 1989 budget transmittal.

- \$44 million for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to implement the President's Low Income Home Ownership program.

- \$50 million for the Department of Justice to investigate and prosecute instances of suspected fraud involving financial institutions, that was also included in the President's February 9, 1989 budget transmittal.

This transmittal also contains a change in a proposed shift of functions between the Department of Commerce and the Small Business Administration and a fiscal year 1990 appropriation request of \$441 thousand for the legislative branch.

May 20

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush greeted President and Mrs. Mitterrand of France at Walker's Point, their home in Kennebunkport, ME.

In the afternoon, the two Presidents participated in a working luncheon at Walker's Point.

May 21

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush attended church services at the First Congregational Church in Kennebunkport, ME. Following the church service, President Bush and President Mitterrand traveled to Boston, MA. There President Bush met briefly with Gov. Michael Dukakis and then with Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to the White House.

May 22

The President met at the White House with:

- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- members of the National Federation of Republican Women Capitol Regents;
- members of the Delaware Governor's Club;
- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President.

The President declared that a major disaster exists in Louisiana as a result of severe storms and flooding that began on May 5. He directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to supplement State and local recovery efforts.

May 23

The President met at the White House with:

- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- members of the Congressional Black Caucus;
- President Vigdis Finnbogadóttir of Iceland;
- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President.

May 24

The President met at the White House with:

- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;
- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President;

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a reception on the State Floor of the Residence at the White House for the Federal Judges Association.

May 25

The President met at the White House with:

- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President; Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to

the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff;

- the Vice President, for lunch;
- John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush went to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and visited Representative Claude Pepper, who had been hospitalized for a stomach ailment. The President presented Representative Pepper with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, in recognition of his long years of public service.

**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 which are not included in this issue.

Released May 20

Transcript:

Press briefing on President Bush's meeting with President Mitterrand of France in Kennebunkport, ME—by Secretary of State James A. Baker III and French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas

Released May 23

Transcript:

Press briefing on the resumption of Strategic Arms Reduction Talks with the Soviet Union and the President's participation in the upcoming NATO summit—by Secretary of State James A. Baker III

Checklist—Continued

Released May 24

Announcement:
Nomination of Dee V. Benson to be United
States Attorney for the District of Utah

Released May 25

Statement:
Presidential decision on U.S. action against
foreign trade barriers

Released May 26

Advance text:
Remarks upon departure for the trip to
Europe

**Acts Approved
by the President**

*Note: No acts approved by the President were
received by the Office of the Federal Register
during the period covered by this issue.*

Editor's Note

*The President traveled to Rome, Italy, on
May 26, the closing date of this issue. Re-
leases and announcements issued by the
Office of the Press Secretary after the Presi-
dent's departure will be printed in a later
issue.*

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