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But uniting the Nation understands and—begins with the understanding of responsibility of the offices we hold. I admire Jeff Sessions because he understands. He has the responsibility not only to represent the great State of Alabama, but he has the responsibility to uphold the honor and dignity of the office to which he has been elected. And he will not let the people of Alabama down.

I love traveling outside of Washington. Listen, I like my job, and the public housing is pretty darn good there. [*Laughter*] But I love to come out to the countryside. I can't thank the people of Alabama enough for lining the roads.

We went to an initiative today in one of the parks outside of Birmingham, where I was able to say that this administration, for the first time, is going to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, so that the people of Alabama will be able to make the conservation decisions necessary for the great State of Alabama.

But as we traveled the road, hundreds of people lined the road to wave and to hold up signs encouraging the President. It reminds me of what I said earlier, and I truly believe. I am blessed to be the President of a nation full of decent and loving and caring and compassionate people, people who respect their country, respect the office of the Presidency—sometimes like the President, sometimes not—but respect the office of the President, who care deeply about the future, who love their families, who worship in houses of worship, and are proud to call themselves American.

I can't tell you what an honor it is to have recently traveled overseas and to stand proudly for a country that represents the best of mankind, that holds up the best for every single citizen. I'm so honored to be here to represent and to urge you to support my friend. And I am honored to tell you, I love being your President, and thank you for the opportunity.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:40 p.m. at the Jefferson Convention Complex. In his remarks, he referred to Mary Sessions, wife of Senator Sessions; William Cabaniss, finance chair, Alabama Bush 2000 campaign; Winton M. "Red" Blount, founder, Blount International, Inc.; Marty Connors, chairman, Alabama Republican Party; Edgar Welden and Bettye Fine Collins, national committee persons, Alabama Republican Executive Committee; and President Vladimir Putin of Russia.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

June 16

In the morning, the President participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at Home Army Memorial in Warsaw, Poland. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Kranj, Slovenia.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

June 18

The President announced his intention to nominate Joseph E. Schmitz to be Inspector General of the Department of Defense.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey William Runge to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The President announced the designation of Warren L. Miller as Chairman of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Tropical Storm Allison on June 11–15.

June 19

In the morning, the President traveled to Arlington, VA, where he toured the Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program Technology Evaluation Center. Later, he, returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Johnny Young to be Ambassador to Slovenia.

The President announced his intention to nominate John J. Danilovich to be Ambassador to Costa Rica.

The President announced his intention to nominate Martin J. Silverstein to be Ambassador to Uruguay.

The White House announced that the President announced the appointment of Stephen E. Biegun as Executive Secretary of the National Security Council.

June 20

In the morning, the President had separate telephone conversations from the Oval Office with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation from the Oval Office with Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority.

Later, in a ceremony in the Oval Office, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors Josefina Pitra Diakite of Angola, Lalit Mansingh of India, Ignacio Arcaya of Venezuela, Girma Asmeron Tesfai of Eritrea, Ahmad Tariq Karim of Bangladesh, Fatos Tarifa of Albania, Sorin Ducaru of Romania, Linn Myaing of Burma, and Shavkat Khamrakulov of Uzbekistan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Hilton Lewis Root to be U.S. Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christopher William Dell to be Ambassador to Angola.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael L. Dominguez to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Nelson F. Gibbs to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations and Environment.

The President announced his intention to nominate Claude B. Hutchinson, Jr., to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Management.

June 21

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Birmingham, AL, where he toured a YMCA Day Camp. In the evening, the President traveled to Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Peter Russell Chaveas to be Ambassador to Sierra Leone.

The President announced his intention to nominate Hilda Gay Legg to be Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service in the Department of Agriculture.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark Edward Rey to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.

The President announced his intention to nominate Nancy Victory to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert Pasternack to be Assistant Secretary of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Joanne M. Wilson to be Commissioner of the Rehabilitative Services Administration at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Marianne Lamont Horinko to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for the Office of Solid Waste.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kenneth M. Donohue, Sr., to be Inspector General at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Minoru Fawn Liu to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Public and Indian Housing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Emily Stover DeRocco to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Mississippi and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Tropical Storm Allison on June 6–13.

June 22

The President announced his intention to nominate Edward William Gnehm, Jr., to be Ambassador to Jordan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Larry C. Napper to be Ambassador to Kazakhstan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Frank Huddle, Jr., to be Ambassador to Tajikistan.

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Pennsylvania and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Tropical Storm Allison on June 15–17.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

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

Submitted June 18

Samuel W. Bodman,
of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, vice Robert L. Mallett, resigned.

Michael J. Garcia,
of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, vice F. Amanda DeBusk, resigned.

Joseph E. Schmitz,
of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense, vice Eleanor Hill.

Terry L. Wooten,
of South Carolina, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina (new position).

Submitted June 19

Laurie Smith Camp,
of Nebraska, to be U.S District Judge for the District of Nebraska, vice William G. Cambridge, retired.

Paul G. Cassell,
of Utah, to be U.S District Judge for the District of Utah, vice David Sam, retired.

Sharee M. Freeman,
of Virginia, to be Director, Community Relations Service, for a term of 4 years, vice Rose Ochi, term expired.

Michael E. Guest,
of South Carolina, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Romania.

James R. Moseley,
of Indiana, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, vice Richard E. Rominger, resigned.

Michael Parker,
of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, vice Joseph W. Westphal.

Submitted June 20

John D. Bates,
of Maryland, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, vice Stanley S. Harris, retired.

Reggie B. Walton,
of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, vice Stanley Sporkin, retired.

Submitted June 21

Harris L. Hartz,
of New Mexico, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, vice Bobby Ray Baldock, retired.

Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.,
of Utah, to be a Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Susan G. Esserman, resigned.

Hilda Gay Legg,
of Kentucky, to be Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, vice Christopher A. McLean, resigned.

Michael Minoru Fawn Liu,
of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, vice Harold Lucas, resigned.