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incident, strengthen the position of U.S. exporters of nuclear equipment and technology, and permit us to provide safety assistance to the world's least-safe reactors more effectively.

I urge the Senate to act expeditiously in giving its advice and consent to ratification of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, with a declaration as set forth in the accompanying report of the Department of State.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 14, 2002.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 15. An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Statement on the North Korean Nuclear Weapons Program

November 15, 2002

I welcome yesterday's strong statement by the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) on the need for North Korea to eliminate its nuclear weapons program and its decision to suspend further shipment of fuel oil to North Korea beginning in December. We are working closely with our partners in KEDO and our friends around the world to address this shared challenge.

North Korea has acknowledged that it is actively pursuing a nuclear weapons program based on enriched uranium. This program undermines regional and international security and the international nonproliferation regime. North Korea is also in direct violation of the North's commitments under the Agreed Framework, the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), its International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards Agreement, and the Joint North-South Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. North Korea's clear violation of its international commitments will not be ignored.

The United States hopes for a different future with North Korea. As I made clear during my visit to South Korea in February, the United States has no intention of invading North Korea. This remains the case today. The United States seeks friendship with the people of North Korea.

In June 2001, we offered to pursue a comprehensive dialog with North Korea. We developed a bold approach under which, if the North addressed our longstanding concerns, the United States was prepared to take important steps that would have significantly improved the lives of the North Korean people. Now that North Korea's covert nuclear weapons program has come to light, we are unable to pursue this approach.

North Korea's nuclear weapons program is a challenge to all responsible nations. The leaders of the Asia-Pacific region made clear in a unanimous statement in October that North Korea's potential to benefit from participation in the international community rests upon the prompt and visible dismantlement of this program. We are united in our desire for a peaceful resolution of this situation. We are also united in our resolve that the only option for addressing this situation is for North Korea to completely and visibly eliminate its nuclear weapons program.

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.

November 10

In the afternoon, the President returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

November 11

In the morning, the President visited the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on The Mall. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Arlington, VA, where they participated in a Veterans Day wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. In the afternoon, they returned to Washington, DC.

November 12

In the morning, the President had intelligence and national security briefings.

In the afternoon, the President met with Republican House and Senate leaders to discuss the legislative agenda. He then met with the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to discuss efforts to strengthen the economy and the legislative agenda. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with newly appointed interim Senator Dean Barkley of Minnesota. He then attended a reception for newly elected Members of Congress.

The President announced his intention to nominate Elizabeth Hoffman to be a member of the National Science Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Raymond T. Wagner, Jr., to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board.

The President announced his intention to designate Adm. James M. Loy, USCG (Ret.), as Acting Under Secretary of Transportation for Security at the Transportation Security Administration.

The President declared a major disaster in Alaska and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by an earthquake on November 3 and continuing.

November 13

In the morning, in the Oval Office, the President had a breakfast meeting with Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt to discuss counterterrorism efforts, the situation in Iraq, and proposed homeland security and terrorism insurance legislation. He then had intelligence and national security briefings.

In the evening, the President attended a reception for the White House Symposium on the West Wing to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the West Wing.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President-elect Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil to the White House on December 10.

The President announced his intention to appoint John Chambers (Vice Chairman) and Albert J. Edmonds as members of the National Infrastructure Advisory Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate William Robert Timken, Jr. (Chairman), Thomas Waters Grant, and Noe Hinojosa, Jr., to be members of the Board of Directors of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Terrence A. Duffy to be a member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Florentino Subia to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation.

November 14

In the morning, the President had intelligence and national security briefings. He also had separate telephone conversations with President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain, to discuss the United Nations resolution on Iraq and the November 21–22 NATO summit in Prague, and with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines, to discuss cooperation against terrorism.

Later in the morning, the President made remarks to the Global Women Business Leaders Partnership concerning their mentoring efforts in the Baltic region and other economic issues.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada Bustamante of Bolivia. He then met with Members of Congress to discuss his trip to Prague for the November 21–22 NATO summit.

The President announced his intention to nominate Brig. Gen. Mark V. Rosenker, AFRC, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

The President declared a major disaster in Alabama and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on November 5–12.

The President declared a major disaster in Mississippi and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on November 10–11.

The President declared a major disaster in Tennessee and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a series of storms and tornadoes November 11.

November 15

In the morning, the President had intelligence and national security briefings. He also had separate telephone conversations with NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson, to discuss the upcoming NATO summit in Prague, and with Prime Minister Konstandinos Simitis of Greece, to discuss issues relating to Turkey and Cyprus and the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney. Later, he met with Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska, ranking member, Senate Appropriations Committee, and Representative C.W. Bill Young of Florida, chairman, House Committee on Appropriations, to discuss proposed appropriations legislation. He then went to Camp David, MD.

The President announced his intention to designate R. Hewitt Pate as Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, at the Department of Justice.

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 November 12

Elizabeth Hoffman,
of Colorado, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Stanley Vincent Jaskolski, term expired.

Raymond T. Wagner, Jr.,
of Missouri, to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for the remainder of the term expiring September 14, 2004, vice George L. Farr.

Submitted November 14

James M. Loy,
of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Security for a term of 5 years, vice John Magaw, resigned.

Daniel Pearson,
of Minnesota, to be a member of the U.S. International Trade Commission for the term expiring June 16, 2011, vice Lynn M. Bragg, term expired.

Harlon Eugene Costner,
of North Carolina, to be U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina, vice Becky Jane Wallace.

Richard Zenos Winget,
of Nevada, to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Nevada, vice Jose Gerardo Troncoso.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released November 10

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on the start of construction of the Kabul-Kandahar-Herat highway in Afghanistan

Released November 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Alaska

Released November 13

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: Meeting With President-Elect Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil