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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, January 10, 2003

Proclamation 7636—National Mentoring Month, 2003

January 2, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Across our great Nation, many Americans are responding to the call to service by mentoring a child in need. By offering love, guidance, and encouragement, mentors put hope in children's hearts, and help ensure that young people realize their full potential. During National Mentoring Month, we recognize the vital contributions of dedicated mentors, and we encourage more Americans to make a difference in the hearts and souls of our communities by volunteering their time to meet the needs of America's youth.

Volunteers provide friendship and support to young people who are facing challenging situations, serve as positive role models, and help to instill important values, goals, and skills. Mentors help young Americans build confidence, gain knowledge, and develop the character necessary to make the right choices and achieve their dreams. Statistics show that at-risk children with mentors demonstrate improved academic performance and are less likely to be involved in destructive activities such as drugs, alcohol, and violence.

During these extraordinary times, we are experiencing a growing culture of service, citizenship, and compassion in our country, with millions of Americans sacrificing for causes greater than self. Dedicated individuals are getting involved in mentoring through faith-based and community organizations, corporate initiatives, school-based programs, and many other outlets for kindness. By dedicating their time and their talents to offer a child a quality relationship with a caring adult, mentors strengthen our families and our communities and reflect the true spirit of America.

Many Americans can point to individuals who influenced their lives and helped to shape them into who they are today. Whether they were teachers, coaches, relatives, clergy, or other community leaders, these positive role models have been critical to our healthy development and helped to instill purpose in our lives. As we honor these everyday heroes, we also recognize that there is a great need for more mentors in America. Too many children in our Nation are growing up without enough support and guidance in their lives, and we must work to ensure that no child is left behind.

This month, I encourage all Americans to become a mentor and change the life of a child in need. In July, the National Mentoring Partnership helped establish the USA Freedom Corps Volunteer Network—the largest system in the Nation for matching individuals with volunteer opportunities. I am proud of this partnership and ask individuals to go online at www.usafreedomcorps.gov or call 1–877–USACORPS to find millions of ways to help children in their neighborhoods. Together, we can reaffirm the promise of America and point the way to a brighter future for all of our children.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 2003 as National Mentoring Month. I call upon the people of the United States to recognize the importance of being role models for our youth, to look for mentoring opportunities in their communities, and to celebrate this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of

America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 7, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on January 8. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Notice—Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Libya

January 2, 2003

On January 7, 1986, by Executive Order 12543, President Reagan declared a national emergency to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Libya. On January 8, 1986, by Executive Order 12544, the President took additional measures to block Libyan assets in the United States. The President has transmitted a notice continuing this emergency to the Congress and the *Federal Register* every year since 1986.

The crisis between the United States and Libya that led to the declaration of a national emergency on January 7, 1986, has not been resolved. Despite the United Nations Security Council's suspension of U.N. sanctions against Libya upon the Libyan government's hand-over of the Pan Am 103 bombing suspects, Libya has not yet complied with its obligations under U.N. Security Council Resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992), and 883 (1993), which include Libya's obligation to accept responsibility for the actions of its officials and pay compensation.

Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the national emergency with respect to Libya. This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 2, 2003.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:03 a.m., January 3, 2003]

NOTE: This notice was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 3, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on January 6. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Libya

January 2, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Libya emergency is to continue in effect beyond January 7, 2003, to the *Federal Register* for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on January 4, 2002 (67 *FR* 637).

The crisis between the United States and Libya that led to the declaration on January 7, 1986, of a national emergency has not been resolved. Despite the United Nations Security Council's suspension of U.N. sanctions against Libya upon the Libyan government's hand-over of the Pan Am 103 bombing suspects, Libya has not yet complied with its obligations under U.N. Security Council Resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992), and 883 (1993), which include Libya's obligation to accept responsibility for the actions of its officials and pay compensation.

For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Libya and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions against Libya to respond to this threat.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 3. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to Libya

January 2, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), 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(c), I am transmitting a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 12543 of January 7, 1986.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 3. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

January 4, 2003

Good morning. One year ago this month, our country set a bold new course in public education. With the No Child Left Behind Act, America began a promising era in our public schools, an era of local control, high standards, and accountability that will produce better results for America's students.

Under the new law, key choices about education spending will be made at the local level by parents and teachers and principals who know the children best. Government cannot and must not try to run the Nation's schools from Washington, DC.

Yet, the Federal Government has an important role. We are providing far more money than ever before to help States and local school districts, more than $22 billion in this school year alone. Over the last 2 years, we have increased Federal spending by 40 percent, and in return, we are insisting that schools use that money wisely. States must set new and higher goals for every student, to ensure that students are learning the basics of reading and math. The law also requires that schools regularly test students, share the results with parents, and show how the results in each school compare with others.

My budget provides more than enough money for States to test every student, every year, in grades three-through-eight. Testing is the only way to know which students are learning and which students need extra help so we can give them help before they fall further behind.

For parents with children in persistently failing schools, the law provides hopeful options. Those parents can choose to send their children to better public schools or receive funding to pay for after-school tutoring or other academic help. No parent will have to settle year after year for schools that do not teach and will not change. Instead of getting excuses, parents will now get choices.

Across America, States and school districts are working hard to implement these reforms. They are developing accountability plans and beginning innovative tutoring programs. The path to real reform and better results is not easy, but it is essential.

The priorities of last year's reforms will also be reflected in the budget I will submit to Congress this year. Too many students in lower income families fall behind early, resulting in a terrible gap in test scores between these students and their more fortunate peers. To help close this achievement

gap, I will ask Congress to approve an additional $1 billion, a total of 12.3 billion, for the Title I program in the 2004 budget. This would be the highest funding level ever for Title I, which serves our neediest students.

Our reforms will not be complete until every child in America has an equal chance to succeed in school and rise in the world. For every child, education begins with strong reading skills. With the Reading First program, we have set a national goal to make sure that every child in America is reading by the third grade. To move toward that goal, I will request more than $1.1 billion for Federal reading programs in next year's budget, an increase of $75 million over last year's budget request. This investment will go only to support programs with proven results in teaching children to read.

The No Child Left Behind Act was a victory of bipartisan cooperation. By this law, we affirmed our basic faith in the wisdom of parents and communities and our fundamental belief in the promise of every child. The work of reform is well begun, and we are determined to continue that effort until every school in America is a place of learning and achievement.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 8:43 a.m. on January 3 at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 4. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 3 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to Title I of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law No. 103–382), which amended Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Public Law No. 89–10). The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Statement on the Terrorist Attack in Israel

January 5, 2003

Today terrorists struck again in Israel, murdering and injuring scores of civilians in Tel Aviv. I condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms. It is a despicable act of murder, and I express my condolences to the Government and people of Israel and especially to the families of the victims. Secretary Powell has already spoken to Prime Minister Sharon to convey the condolences of the American people. The United States remains determined to continue our efforts toward peace in the Middle East, a goal that the terrorists seek to destroy. All who genuinely seek peace in the region must join in the effort to stop terror. The United States is determined to continue the global fight against terrorism and against the terrorist organizations that conduct operations such as the murders in Israel today.

NOTE: In the statement, the President referred to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel.

Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting and an Exchange With Reporters

January 6, 2003

The President. I have an opening statement here, and I'll answer a couple of questions.

I want to thank my Cabinet for coming. This is the 15th Cabinet meeting we've had since we were sworn in, and I appreciate each of you working so hard on behalf of the American people.

Today we talked about the issues facing our country. The war on terror continues. We will hunt down the terrorists wherever they hide. We'll do everything we can to secure the homeland.

We heard a briefing today from Tom Ridge about how the reorganization of the Homeland Security Department is going. It's very important for Congress and the Senate to confirm Tom as quickly as possible and to confirm his team, so they can get doing the work of the American people.

Here at home, I hope the Congress will extend the unemployment benefits for—for the American workers who don't have a job—soon, as quickly as possible. As well, it's important for Congress to pass the '03 appropriations bills. We're living under continuing resolutions. The agency heads here are—want to have their budgets finalized so that they can have certainty in the appropriations with which they have to work. Congress has got work to do.

Tomorrow I'm going to talk about how to continue the economic growth that we have, to ensure our economy is as robust as possible. I look forward to the speech in Chicago, because it is a plan that speaks directly to the American citizen that we'll do everything we can to revitalize the small-business sector, to make sure it remains strong so people can find work.

We've put together a fine economic team. I hope the Congress, the Senate acts quickly to confirm John Snow and Bill Donaldson. They need to move quickly.

I look forward to working with the leadership in the House and the Senate. Doesn't matter who's in charge, we'll work with them. Obviously, we're pleased that Senator Frist will be leading the Senate. We'll work with him. We'll continue to work with Senator Daschle, and we'll work with Speaker Hastert, Leader DeLay, and Congressman Pelosi as well.

We have got a job to do for the American people, and we'll do that job, to make sure the country is secure, to win the war on terror, and make sure people can find work.

Let me answer some questions. Sandra [Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press], this is your last day, I understand, and therefore, you get to ask the only question—I mean, you get to ask—[*laughter*].

President's Economic Plan

Q. The first question to the last? You said that your economic plan will speak directly to the American citizen. The Democrats say that it speaks most directly to the richest American taxpayers. How do you answer that criticism and the charge that you're just going to lead to deeper deficits?

The President. Well, the critics hadn't seen the plan. This is a plan that provides tax relief to the working citizens. It's a plan that is a very fair plan. It's a plan that recognizes, when somebody has more of their own money, they're likely to spend it, which creates more jobs.

Our administration is concerned about deficits, and the way they deal with deficits is you, one, control spending. And I hope Congress lives up to their words. When they talk about deficits, they can join us in making sure we don't overspend. They can join us and make sure that the appropriations process is focused on those issues that—those items that are absolutely necessary for the American people.

I'm pleased that Members of the Congress are talking about deficits. It means they understand their obligations not to overspend the people's money. And the second way to deal with deficits is to encourage revenue growth. And the way to encourage revenue growth is to encourage the private sector to grow. And tomorrow I'll be talking about ways to encourage the growth of the private sector.

Steve [Steve Holland, Reuters].

Iraq

Q. Sir, with 3 weeks to go until the U.N. inspectors report back, are you seeing any signs of compliance by Iraq? Saddam says it's carrying out intelligence work.

The President. Well, I thought that was an interesting statement on his part. When you combine that with the fact that his declaration was clearly deficient, it is discouraging news for those of us who want to resolve this issue peacefully.

He has the obligation to disarm. For the sake of peace, he must disarm. The United Nations has clearly said that. It is in our Nation's interest that he disarm. He is a threat to the American people. He's a threat to our friends and neighbors in the Middle East. He is a person who has used weapons of mass destruction. And so, therefore, the world has said to Saddam, "You won't have any weapons of mass destruction. Get rid of them." And thus far, it looks like he hasn't complied.

But he's got time, and we continue to call upon Saddam Hussein to listen to what the world is saying. Not just the United States but the entire world expects Saddam Hussein to disarm.

Dick—Stretch [Richard Keil, Bloomberg News].

President's Economic Plan

Q. Mr. President, changing the taxation on stock dividends—a lot of analysts say that, in and of itself, would not have a particularly stimulative effect for the economy. Do you disagree with that? And if in the end you get a benefit yourself, is it money that you

would then direct to be reinvested, or is it money that you might spend?

The President. If it—I didn't hear the second part of your question. If it—the hypothetical part of the question, which I'm probably not going to answer. [*Laughter*]

Q. If Congress does your bidding and you get benefits from dividends that aren't being taxed, would you use that money to reinvest or would you spend it on consumer goods or consumer items?

The President. Me, personally?

Q. You, personally.

The President. My money is in a blind trust, Stretch, so I don't know if I've got any dividends.

Q. If you did.

The President. Oh, if I did. [*Laughter*]

Q. Not many of us have dividends these days, but——

The President. Well, it's interesting you asked that question. A lot of people get dividends, see. And that's one of the reasons why we're analyzing this issue of taxing things twice, particularly dividends. Most seniors—over 50 percent of the seniors receive dividends.

First of all, it's unfair to tax money twice. There's a principle involved. The Government ought to be content with taxing revenue streams or profits one time, not twice. And in dividends, we tax the corporate profit, and then we tax the money being sent to the shareholder. And that doesn't make any sense. That's unfair. That's bad public policy. Many of the shareholders that pay the taxes are senior citizens. These are senior citizens who have retired and senior citizens who can use that money.

Thirdly, the reduction in taxes on dividends will encourage capital flows into the marketplace. It will encourage investment, and that's what we want. We want to encourage investment activity. Investment means jobs.

And so I'm not going to specifically tell you what's in the speech tomorrow, though it looks like some others might have already done that. I do encourage you to listen to it. But I encourage you to look at the entire package. It's a package that's shaped for economic vitality and growth.

Listen, we're doing fine. Tomorrow you'll hear me say this economy is one of the strongest in the world. But what we believe is that we can be stronger. And we also know that when somebody is looking for work who wants to work means we've got to continue to try to stimulate job growth.

Now, we don't believe it's the role of Government to manage the economy. We've got great faith in the private sector. And so we're going to create the environment for the private sector to be stronger. That's the policy of this administration.

Sandra, good luck to you. Thanks.

Q. Thank you, sir.

North Korea

Q. Mr. President, on North Korea, sir?

The President. I'll answer one on North Korea, yes, real quick.

Q. Yes, sir. What would it take for the U.S. or any other nation to have direct talks with North Korea? And they claim to believe that the U.S. is a threat to them.

The President. Yes.

Q. What can you say?

The President. Well, first of all, I went to Korea and clearly said that the United States has no intention of invading North Korea. I said that right there in South Korea. And in Kim Chong-il's neighborhood, I spoke as clearly, as I said, and said, "We won't invade you." And I'll repeat that: We have no intention of invading North Korea.

We expect North Korea to adhere to her obligations. She's in an agreement with the United States and said that she would not develop nuclear weapons, and we expect people to keep their word. We will have dialog; we've had dialog with North Korea. The Secretary of State visited with the Deputy Foreign Minister——

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. The Foreign Minister.

The President. ——the Foreign Minister, excuse me. And talking is one thing, but we expect people to honor obligations. And for Kim Chong-il to be a credible member of the world community, he's got to understand that he's got to do what he says he's going to do.

I believe this will be resolved peacefully, and I believe it can be resolved diplomatically.

Thank you.

Q. Thank you, sir.

Q. What were you laughing at before we came in, sir? [*Laughter*]

The President. I'm not telling. [*Laughter*] I won't tell, but somebody will leak it. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:11 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Treasury Secretary-designate John Snow; William Donaldson, Chairman-designate, Securities and Exchange Commission; President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; and Chairman Kim Chong-il and Foreign Minister Paek Nam-sun of North Korea. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Remarks to the Economic Club of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois

January 7, 2003

Thank you all very much. It's a windy day out there, which is—[*laughter*]—a good day for a windy speaker. [*Laughter*] I'm honored to be your guest here at the Economic Club of Chicago. I want to thank Michael for the invitation. I like a short introduction. He didn't let me down. [*Laughter*]

For 75 years, the business leaders and the entrepreneurs in the club have helped make Chicago a prosperous and energetic city. You understand the concerns facing American workers and employers, and you believe, as I do, that we must address those concerns honestly and aggressively.

Today in Washington, a new Congress convenes, and I will ask members of both parties to work with me to secure our economic future. We cannot be satisfied until every part of our economy is healthy and vigorous. We will not rest until every business has a chance to grow and every person who wants to find work can find a job. So today I'm announcing a growth-and-jobs plan to strengthen America's economy, specific proposals to increase the momentum of our economic recovery.

And this is a good city to give it in. This is one of America's great cities. And one of the reasons why is because you have a great mayor in Richard Daley. We're from different political parties, but we have some things in common: We both married above ourselves. [*Laughter*] It is good to see the first lady of Chicago here. Thank you for coming. We both have famous and influential brothers. [*Laughter*] Our dads spent a little time in politics. [*Laughter*] And we love our country more than we love our political parties.

The thing I like most about the mayor is he gets the job done for the people of Chicago. And Mr. Mayor, I'm proud to call you friend.

And I want to thank another proud son of Chicago, Rod Blagojevich, for being with us today as well. He's soon to have the second-best job in America, being a Governor. I congratulate him on his election. I look forward to working with him for the good of Illinois and for the good of our country. Thank you for coming, Governor-elect. I appreciate you being here.

I flew in today with the Senator from Illinois, Peter Fitzgerald. I appreciate his leadership. I appreciate his friendship. And as we speak, the Senate is debating the Fitzgerald bill which will extend unemployment benefits to those who are looking for work in America. And Peter, I want to thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

And on that very same airplane was traveling with me Steve Friedman, who is the new Director of the National Economic Council. I'm honored that such a respected economic leader has agreed to join my administration. I appreciate the fact that he's willing to take time away from a comfortable private life to serve our country. He is a strong addition to a great economic team, and I want to thank him for his willingness to serve America. Thank you for coming, Steve.

I've also named two other good people to join this team. John Snow is my nominee to serve as the Secretary of Treasury. Bill Donaldson is my nominee to be the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

They will fill essential positions in my administration, and I urge the Congress to confirm them quickly.

As the new Congress meets today, our duties to this Nation are clear. We have a responsibility to meet great dangers to our country, wherever they gather. We will continue to hunt down the terrorists all across the world. Cell by cell, we are disrupting their plans. One by one, we're showing these merciless killers the meaning of justice.

We're also confronting the outlaw regime in Iraq that lives by violence and deception and is arming to threaten the civilized world. The world's demands are clear: For the sake of peace, Saddam Hussein must disarm himself of all weapons of mass destruction and prove that he has done so. Should he choose the other course, in the name of peace, the United States will lead a coalition of the willing to disarm the Iraqi regime of weapons of mass destruction and free the Iraqi people.

And we're dealing with North Korea as well. It's a regime that has expelled international inspectors and is attempting to defy the world through its nuclear weapons program. The United States and other nations will confront this threat as well. In this case, I believe that by working with countries in the region, diplomacy will work. We have no aggressive intent, no argument with the North Korean people. We're interested in peace on the Korean Peninsula.

As we deal with the dangers of our time, different circumstances require different strategies. Yet our resolve in each case will be clear: We will not permit any regime to threaten the freedom and security of the American people or our allies and friends around the world.

Even as we confront these dangers, you need to know I know we have needs here at home, especially the need for a vigorous and growing economy. Too many Americans today are wondering about our economy. They're asking, "How is the economy really doing?" Well, the American economy is the strongest and most resilient economy in the world. In spite of the terrible shocks that our Nation has received, our economy is growing, and the entrepreneurial spirit in America is strong.

We've made great progress these past 2 years. Remember, in the summer of 2000, during the Presidential campaign, the market had started on a steady decline. Job growth started to dwindle. The economy had begun to slow. When I took office, the signs of recession were real.

So I worked with the United States Congress to reduce income taxes for everyone who pays them. More than 100 million individuals, families, and sole proprietorships received tax relief. This tax relief was the largest in a generation, and it gave the economy a boost just at the right time, ensuring that the recession was one of the shortest and shallowest in modern American history.

Americans should be able to count on those tax cuts as they plan their financial futures. So I will continue to press the Congress to make these tax cuts, including the end of the death tax, permanent. We know that the tax cuts worked, and Americans deserve to know their tax cuts will not be taken away.

We faced a second test with the attacks of September the 11th, 2001. These attacks caused terrible suffering and a massive disruption of the economy. Flights were canceled. Many hotels and stores were empty. Stock trading was halted for nearly a week. So we acted: We reopened the markets; we helped the people of New York City recover; we assisted the airlines; we provided tax incentives for business investment; and we passed terrorism insurance so building and real estate projects could go forward.

And then our economy was tested a third time, when Americans discovered serious abuses of trust by some corporate leaders. So we passed historic reforms to assure corporate integrity, to punish wrongdoers, and defend the interests of workers and investors. Corporate greed and malfeasance cause innocent people to lose their jobs, their savings, and often their confidence in the American system. For the sake of justice, and for the sake of every honest business in America, I have made this commitment: Corporate misdeeds will be investigated; they will be prosecuted; and they will be punished.

We have met the tests before us because the American people have worked hard through difficult times. And now our country

has entered its second year of economic growth. Our trade with other nations is expanding, bringing lower prices that come from imports and better jobs that come from exports. More Americans are buying and building houses, a central part of the American Dream. The homeownership rate is now 68 percent, close to the highest ever. Low interest rates have allowed Americans to tap the rising value of their homes. In 2002, refinancings added more than $100 billion to American pocketbooks, money that helped renovate homes or pay off debt or cover tuition or purchase other goods.

The most important indicator of our economic strength is the growing skill and efficiency of the American worker. The productivity of American workers went up by 5.6 percent over the last four quarters for which we have data, the best increase since 1973. As productivity rises, so do wages and our standard of living. Nationwide, incomes are rising faster than inflation.

We have the most productive, creative, and promising economic system the world has ever seen. America sets the standard for scientific research, engineering skill, and medical innovation. Our companies and universities attract talent from every single continent. Investors from around the world know America is the safest place to put their money. People around the world who search for a better life still dream of working and living in the United States of America.

All these conditions create a platform for long-term growth and prosperity. Yet, in spite of successes, we have more work to do, because too many of our citizens who want to work cannot find a job and many employers lack the confidence to invest and create new jobs.

We can help assure greater success tomorrow with the policies we choose today. Now, these policies must recognize that our $10-trillion economy is sustained by the labor and enterprise of the American people. Government spends a lot of money, but it doesn't build factories. It doesn't invest in companies or do the work that makes the economy go. The role of Government is not to manage or control the economy from Washington, DC, but to remove obstacles standing in the way for faster economic growth. That's our role.

And those obstacles are clear. Many jobs are lost in America because Government imposes unreasonable regulations, and many jobs are lost because the lawsuit culture of this country imposes unreasonable costs.

I will continue to press for legal and regulatory reform. But today—today I want to talk about these concerns: Americans carry a heavy burden of taxes and debt that could slow consumer spending. I'm troubled by that. I'm also troubled by the fact that our tax system unfairly penalizes some productive investments. And I worry about people who are out of work. They need our help, both in short-term benefits and long-term opportunity. By directly confronting each of these challenges, we can preserve the hard-won gains our economy has made and advance toward greater prosperity.

Our first challenge is to allow Americans to keep more of their money so they can spend and save and invest—the millions of individual decisions that support the market, that support business, and help create jobs.

Consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of our economy. It has been the driving force of our recovery. Yet there are warning signs I won't ignore, and I hope the Congress doesn't ignore either. Many Americans live in constant and increasing personal debt, with credit card bills so heavy they often cannot pay much more than the monthly minimum. Millions of citizens spend their entire adult lives living paycheck to paycheck, never getting a chance to save for their children's education or their own retirement. Americans today are paying about a third of their income in taxes. All of this puts pressure on family budget and therefore clouds our economic future.

Americans facing these struggles are due to receive additional tax relief in 2004 and again in 2006. Republicans and Democrats in Congress already approved these tax rate reductions. And the time to deliver the tax rate reductions is now, when they can do the most good for the American businesses.

For the sake of economic vitality, I'm asking Congress to make all the tax rate reductions effective this year. The tax cuts should be retroactive to January 1st. Upon passage,

I'll order the Treasury Department to immediately adjust the amount of money withheld for income taxes, so that Americans will keep more of their paychecks right away. By speeding up the income tax cuts, we will speed economic recovery and the pace of job creation. If tax relief is good enough for Americans 3 years from now, it is good enough for Americans today.

An additional beneficiary of this tax cut will be small businesses. About 30 million Americans include small-business income when they file their individual tax returns with the IRS. Faster tax relief will help these businesses to expand sooner, to hire new people faster, and to build a stronger foundation for the recovery.

We also know that middle-income families need additional relief. So today I'm asking Congress to speed up three other tax reductions promised in 2001, tax reductions that will help our middle-income families. Instead of slowly reducing the marriage penalty until 2009, we should do it now, to help 35 million married couples. Instead of waiting until 2008 to move more taxpayers from the 15-percent bracket to the lowest bracket of 10 percent, we should make that change now and help 2 million working Americans. And instead of gradually raising the child tax credit from $600 to $1,000 per child by the year of 2010, for the benefit of 26 million families, we should raise it now.

These tax reductions will bring real and immediate benefits to middle-income Americans. Ninety-two million Americans will keep an average of $1,083 more of their own money. A family of four with two earners and $39,000 in income will receive more than $1,100 in tax relief, real money to help pay the bills and push the economy forward. And the sooner Congress acts, the sooner the help will come.

Taken together, these income tax cuts will put an additional $70 billion to work in the private economy over the next 18 months. And there's no better way to help our economy grow than to leave more money in the hands of the men and women who earned it.

Our second challenge is to encourage greater investment by individuals and small businesses, the kind of investing that builds personal wealth and helps company expand and creates new jobs.

We are increasingly a nation of owners, who invest for retirement and the other financial challenges of life. One-half of American households own stock, either directly or through pension funds. And we have an obligation to make sure, now more than ever, that American investors are treated fairly.

We can begin by treating investors fairly and equally in our tax laws. As it is now, many investments are taxed not once but twice. First, the IRS taxes a company on its profit. Then it taxes the investors who receive the profits as dividends. The result of this double taxation is that for all the profit a company earns, shareholders who receive dividends keep as little as 40 cents on the dollar.

Double taxation is bad for our economy. Double taxation is wrong. Double taxation falls especially hard on retired people. About half of all dividend income goes to America's seniors, and they often rely on those checks for a steady source of income in their retirement.

It's fair to tax a company's profits. It's not fair to double-tax by taxing the shareholder on the same profits. So today, for the good of our senior citizens and to support capital formation across the land, I'm asking the United States Congress to abolish the double taxation of dividends.

The benefits of this tax relief will be felt throughout the economy. Abolishing double taxation of dividends will leave nearly 35 million Americans with more of their own money to spend and invest, which will promote savings and return as much as $20 billion this year to the private economy.

By ending this investment penalty, we will strengthen investor confidence. See, by ending double taxation of dividends, we will increase the return on investing, which will draw more money into the markets to provide capital to build factories, to buy equipment, hire more people.

We must also encourage the investments that help turn small businesses into larger ones. Small businesses create the majority of new jobs in America, and they account for half the output of the economy. Currently, tax law permits small firms to write off as expenses up to $25,000 worth of equipment,

like computers or machinery that they need. I'm asking the Congress to raise that limit to $75,000 and index that number for inflation. This change, together with the faster rate reductions, will benefit more than 23 million small-business owners. My view is this economy can thrive only if our small businesses thrive. And we will provide them every incentive to grow and create more jobs.

A third challenge facing our country is the need to help unemployed workers and prepare them for the new jobs of a growing economy. The unemployment rate today is 6 percent. That's low for an economy coming out of recession. It's higher than it should be, and the unemployment rate is projected to rise even further in the short run.

This hardship is concentrated in certain regions and in certain industries. Manufacturing jobs have declined for 28 months in a row. You know what I'm talking about here in the Midwest. You're showing signs of recovery here; yet many people here and across this country are still looking for work.

A woman in Arkansas tells a typical story. She talked about the fact that her husband was laid off from his job at a local steel mill. And both she and the husband have been looking for a job for quite a while. Here's what she said: "There's just nothing for me to find. We're trying to save up what little money we have and move to another community and look for jobs there." Got to be worried about those kind of stories here in America. As we encourage long-term growth, we will not forget the men and women who are struggling today.

Close to 70,000 workers each week exhaust their unemployment benefits, and we have an obligation to help our fellow citizens. So I'm asking this new Congress to extend unemployment benefits that expired on December the 28th. And the benefits Congress approves should be retroactive, like the Fitzgerald bill, so that people who lost their benefits last month can receive their benefits in full. Helping America's unemployed workers should be a first order of business in the new Congress, and it looks like it's going to be.

We must be more creative when we help those who have the hardest time finding work. To encourage innovation and more choices and to help those who are out of work find the dignity of a new job, today I'm unveiling a new approach to helping unemployed Americans through Personal Reemployment Accounts. Under this new program, Americans who face the greatest difficulties in finding work will receive up to $3,000 to use in their job search. They will have great flexibility in how they use that money. A person with a Reemployment Account will be able to decide whether to use the funds for job training or child care or transportation or even to cover the costs of relocating to another city for a new job. If the job is obtained quickly—within 13 weeks—the worker will be able to keep the cash balance as a "reemployment bonus."

As we see new economic growth, we will need well-trained workers to fill new jobs. So I'm going to ask the Congress to provide $3.6 billion to the States to pay for the Reemployment Accounts, enough money to help more than a million unemployed men and women across America. In order to strengthen this economy in the future, we must help these Americans today.

The jobs-and-growth proposals I've outlined today are a focused plan to encourage consumer spending, to promote small-business growth, to boost confidence in our markets, and to give critical help to unemployed citizens. Overall, this growth package will reduce the tax burden of Americans by $98 billion this year and $670 billion over the next decade. I proposed a bold plan because the need for this plan is urgent, and I urge the Congress to act swiftly and pass this bill.

Our Nation has seen 2 years of serious and steady challenges. The recession and the decline in the stock market slowed earnings and cut into tax revenues and created a budget deficit. And in this time of war, I can assure you this Government is spending what is necessary to win the war. But the Congress must also understand this: The American people deserve and expect spending discipline in Washington, DC. With spending discipline and with pro-growth policies, we will expand the economy and help bring down this deficit.

This growth-and-jobs package is essential in the short run; it's an immediate boost to the economy. And these proposals will help stimulate investment and put more people

back to work, is what we want to have happen. They are essential for the long run, as well, to lay the groundwork for future growth and future prosperity. That growth will bring the added benefit of higher revenues for the Government, revenues that will keep tax rates low while fulfilling key obligations and protecting programs such as Medicare and Social Security.

We're meeting the challenges to America. We're strengthening our economy, and we're taking a battle to our enemies. And we're not going to leave our work half-finished. In the months ahead, we'll confront every threat to the safety and security of the American people. We'll press on to turn our recovery into lasting growth and opportunity that reaches every corner of America. By the courage and by the enterprise of the American people, this great Nation will prosper, and there's no doubt in my mind this great Nation will prevail.

May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:07 p.m. in the Sheraton Chicago Ballroom at the Sheraton Chicago. In his remarks, he referred to Michael H. Moskow, president and chief executive officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, and his wife, Maggie; Governor-elect Rod R. Blagojevich of Illinois; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Memorandum on Determination Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as Amended

January 7, 2003

Presidential Determination No. 2003–09

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Determination Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as Amended

Pursuant to section (2)(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2601(c)(1), I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest that up to $11 million be made available from the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund to address unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs arising from the crises in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia, and from the return of refugees to Sierra Leone and Angola. These funds may be used, as appropriate, to provide contributions to international, governmental, and nongovernmental organizations.

You are authorized and directed to inform the appropriate committees of the Congress of this determination and the obligation of funds under this authority, and to arrange for the publication of this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 10, 2003]

NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on January 13.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Requests for Budget Amendments

January 7, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed requests for Fiscal Year 2003 budget amendments for the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, the Interior, Labor, and the Treasury; the Corps of Engineers; as well as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Federal Trade Commission.

The details of these requests are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus

January 7, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended,

I am providing a report prepared by my Administration on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period October 1, 2002, through November 30, 2002. The previous submission covered events from August 1, 2002, through September 30, 2002. Particularly significant during this period was U.N. Secretary-General Annan's submission on November 11 to Greek Cypriot leader Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash of a proposed basis for a Cyprus agreement.

As in past reporting periods, U.S. officials provided diplomatic support to the process, including Secretary of State Powell, National Security Advisor Rice, Special Cyprus Coordinator Thomas G. Weston, and Ambassador to Cyprus Michael Klosson. The United States remains committed to the U.N. effort to find a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard G. Lugar, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Remarks on the Anniversary of the No Child Left Behind Act

January 8, 2003

The President. Thank you all. Thanks for coming. Thank you. It's one of the few jobs in America where you get introduced by your wife on a regular basis—[*laughter*]—in your home. [*Laughter*] And we're glad you're here. This is a—you're one of our first guests we've had since the new year. And this is an appropriate gathering because Laura and I share a deep passion to make sure every child gets educated in America.

We want to thank you for coming. And this is an interesting day. It marks the anniversary of an incredibly important legislative accomplishment. It was a year ago that I signed the No Child Left Behind Education Act. It was the most meaningful education reform probably ever.

I wish all the Democrats and Republicans who helped us on that bill were here today. They've got other business. One Republican is here, and that's Senator Judd Gregg from New Hampshire, who is the author—the Senate author on the Republican side.

This was a art of what is possible in Washington. It was a legislative victory on behalf of the children of America. And it showed the American people that when people set aside this needless partisan bickering, we can get some positive things done.

So, a year ago we signed the piece of legislation that I'm absolutely confident is going to change our schools for the better, change the whole structure of education for the good. But it also was a signal to those who love to divide in Washington, DC, that when we put our minds to it, when we focus on the greater good, we can get a lot done.

So I want to congratulate the members of both political parties on this anniversary for working so hard to accomplish a significant and meaningful piece of legislation. And now we've got to get to work. Now we got to do the job that's expected.

We can say that the work of reform is well begun. And that's—that's a true statement. The work will be complete, however, when every school—every public school in America is a place of high expectations and a place of achievement. That is our national goal.

And there are a lot of good people working on that goal. We've got good people here at the Federal level working on it—no better advocate than—excellence in public schools than Laura. She was a schoolteacher. She's a schoolteacher. She's a reading expert. She is a public school librarian. She's very knowledgeable, and she is passionate. And so this year she's going to spend a lot of time working with the local folks to achieve excellence for every single child.

And so is our—so is Rod Paige, who is running the Department of Education. I like to tease Rod a little bit. When I was looking for somebody to run the Department of Education, I wasn't interested in anybody who was good on the theory. I wanted somebody who was good on actually doing the job of being a superintendent of schools. And he ran the toughest school district in our State of Texas, which was the Houston Independent School District. And he did a great job, because he believed in high standards,

accountability, and local control for the schools in the district. And Rod is the right man to be the Secretary of Education at this time in our Nation's history, and he has not let us down.

Secretary Paige. Thank you.

The President. Appreciate you.

If you follow schools and if you follow public education, you know that you can find excellence in schools where you've got a good principal. Obviously, it requires good teachers. But if you've got a good principal, an innovative, smart, capable person who is motivated and dedicated and who believes every child can learn, you'll find excellence in that particular school. And we've got eight such principals with us today. And it is my honor to herald them.

Bernice Whelchel, who is the principal of City Springs Elementary School right here in Baltimore, Maryland, or right close here in Baltimore, Maryland. I want to thank you.

Mary Ann Hawthorne is the principal of the Samuel Gompers Vocational and Technical High School in Bronx, New York. Appreciate you, Mary Ann. Thank you.

Keith Owens, who is from Beulah Heights Elementary School in Pueblo, Colorado. Keith. Yes, thank you.

Keith Posley is from Clarke Street Elementary in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

J.R. Guinn, Del Valle High School, El Paso, Texas.

Lorraine Fong, who is the principal from Kew Elementary in Inglewood, California. I appreciate you, Lorraine. Good to see you again.

Patrick Galatowitsch, who is the principal of Rolling Hills Elementary School, Orlando, Florida.

Beth Hager, principal of the Whitney M. Young Middle School in Cleveland, Ohio.

I appreciate you all. I'm glad you're here. I want to thank you for standing up here with Laura and me and Rod. It is a chance for us to remind our fellow citizens that when you find a good principal, thank him or her from the bottom of your heart for doing one of the toughest jobs in the country. But I hope it's one of the most rewarding jobs for you. Because, after all, you're achieving what a lot of people say can't happen, and that is you've taken some tough schools and converted them to little centers of excellence. And you can truly say that because of your efforts and your love and your energy, no child in your school is going to be left behind. Thank you all.

Today I had the honor of meeting members of the President's Commission on Special Education. I want to thank you all for your hard work. We will be reauthorizing IDEA * this year with Members of Congress. I know Senator Gregg holds this issue close to his heart. I think you'll find that the reforms suggested in the Commission's findings is going to be a great place for you to start, and hopefully finish, Mr. Senator. [*Laughter*]

I also want to thank the education officials from five States, which I will be naming a little later, officials who are on the leading edge of education reform. I'm not going to tip my hand as to why you're here yet, but thank you all for coming. [*Laughter*] I know that many in this room have devoted your entire lives to bringing a spirit of high achievement to education in America, and I want to thank you for that. You understand success. You've seen success firsthand—and unfortunately, too many instances you are aware of the persistent problems in our schools.

Perhaps the biggest problem is that we have passed children from grade to grade, year after year, and those—child hadn't learned the basics of reading and math. That says to me that somebody somewhere along the way believes certain children can't learn, so therefore, let's just shuffle them through.

Many schools in our country are places of hope and opportunity. Eight such schools are here; many schools in the five States represented are places where people can feel hopeful for the future. Unfortunately, too many schools in America have failed in that mission. The harm has been greatest in the poor and minority communities. Those kids have been hurt the worst because people have failed to challenge the soft bigotry of low expectations.

Over the years, parents across America have heard a lot of excuses—that's a reality—and oftentimes have seen little change. One

* White House correction.

year ago today, the time for excuse-making has come to an end. With the No Child Left Behind Act, we have committed the Nation to higher standards for every single public school. And we've committed the resources to help the students achieve those standards. We affirm the right of parents to have better information about the schools and to make crucial decisions about their children's future. Accountability of results is no longer just a hope of parents. Accountability for results is now the law of the land.

In return for receiving Federal money, States must design accountability systems to measure whether students are learning to read and write and add and subtract. In return for a lot of money, the Federal Government, for the first time, is asking, "Are we getting the kind of return the American people want for every child?" The only way to be sure of whether or not every child is learning is to test regularly and to show everybody, especially the parents, the results of the tests. The law further requires that test scores be presented in a clear and meaningful way, so that we can find the learning problems within each group of students. I'll show off a little bit—it's called disaggregation of results. [*Laughter*]

Annual report cards are required to grade the schools, themselves, so parents can judge how the schools compare to others. Excellence will be recognized. It's so important for us to measure, so that we can praise the principals and teachers who are accomplishing the objectives we all hope for. And at the same time, poor performance cannot be disguised or hidden.

Schools that perform poorly will be noticeable and given time and given incentives and given resources to improve. Schools that don't improve will begin to face consequences, such as that parents can move their child to another public school or hire a tutor or any other academic help. We will not accept a school that does not teach and will not change.

Schools have a responsibility to improve, and they also have the freedom to improve in this law, and that's important. I can assure you, I haven't changed my attitude about Federal control of schools. When I was the Governor of Texas, I didn't like the idea of Federal control of schools. I felt we were pretty competent in the State of Texas to run our own schools. I still feel that way, now that I've been up here for 2 years. I believe in local control of schools, and this principle is inherent in this bill.

The key choices about curriculum and teaching methods will be made at the State and local level. Input will be given by parents and teachers and principals who know the local culture best. Parents and educators will not be bystanders in education reform. As a matter of fact, in our view, they are the agents of education reform. And this law upholds that principle as well.

Across America, States and school districts are working hard to implement these reforms. Today Secretary Paige is approving the first five accountability plans, hence the five folks I've invited here. [*Laughter*] The first five accountability plans have been approved, and they are from the States of Ohio and Massachusetts, New York, Colorado, and Indiana.

Their plans are rigorous, and their plans are innovative. They are also varied, reflecting the different strengths and challenges within each State. One size doesn't fit all when it comes to public education. What counts are results. What counts are the fact that the schools will be teaching the basics and children learn how to read and compute. These States recognize that.

I want to thank you very much for showing what is possible, for being on the leading edge. The plans show the kind of energy and commitment and good faith that education reform demands. These leaders who have prepared these plans show us that high standards are not a burden to carry. They show us that this a opportunity to seize. The leaders also show a faith and confidence in their students, a belief that every child can learn.

Children respond to an atmosphere of high standards. As teachers and parents can tell you, children love to learn. They just love it. And they sense when we have faith in them, and they love to justify that faith. And that's what you all have shown, faith in every child.

The main reservations we've heard in the year since we passed the reform have come from some adults, not the children, who say

the testing requirement is an unfunded mandate on the States. Well, that's not true. We put up $387 million to provide for testing, to pay for the testing in this year's budget. I intend to ask for the same amount next year. We demanded excellence. We're going to pay for the accountability systems to make sure that we do get excellence.

Some have claimed that testing somehow distracts from learning. I've heard this excuse since I was the Governor of Texas, "Oh, you're teaching the test." Well, if a child can pass the reading test, the child has learned to read, as far as I'm concerned.

Other critics worry that high standards and measurement invite poor results. In other words, "Don't measure. You might see poor results," I guess is what they're saying—that they fear that by imposing clear standards, we'll set some schools up for failure and that we'll identify too many failing schools. Well, the reasoning is backwards, as far as I'm concerned, and a lot of other good people are concerned as well. You don't cause a problem by revealing the problem. Accountability doesn't cause failure; it identifies failure. And only by acknowledging poor performance can we ever help schools to achieve. You can't solve a problem unless you first diagnose the problem.

And so the accountability schools understand—the accountability rules understand that schools can achieve. And that's why these eight are up here with us. And I want to cite two examples. One, Beulah Heights Elementary in Pueblo, Colorado—the proportion of fourth graders reading at or above proficiency has gone from 50 percent, which is clearly unacceptable, to 86 percent in 3 years.

How do we know? We measured. He wouldn't be standing here if we didn't measure. We'd be guessing as to whether or not—and we'd find out, unfortunately, after the 50 percent that couldn't read graduated from high school and still couldn't read. Accountability helps address problems early, before it's too late. Accountability gives us a chance to praise a principal and thank your teachers, too.

At Del Valle High School in El Paso, less than half the children in that high school could pass an Algebra I exam 2 years ago. See, we measured in Texas. We wanted to know. This year, the number has risen to 74 percent.

I want to tell you what J.R. Guinn has said. He said, "You have to make the expectation of success part of your belief system." We're raising the bar, and we expect success. And J.R., you're getting success. Thank you for your leadership. Good job.

All these school leaders understand it's not easy to turn a school around. They know that. It's hard to go from frustration and despair to achievement and pride. Yet these principals and the teachers have made the effort, and they're seeing the results. And it must make you feel great.

This administration is committed to your effort. And with the support of Congress, we will continue to work to provide the resources school need to fund the era of reform. This school year, we're providing more money than ever before to help States and school districts. The Federal Government is going to spend $22 billion this year. Over the last 2 years, we've increased funding for elementary and secondary education by 49 percent. That's a large increase.

It is not enough to spend more on schools, however. This issue is not just about money. We must spend money more wisely. We must spend money on what works. And we must make sure we continue to insist upon results for the money we spend.

The priorities of the No Child Left Behind Act will be reflected in the budgets I submit, as long as I'm working here. This year, for example, I'm requesting more than $1 billion for the Federal reading programs in next year's budget.

Now, I want you to know something about reading. Laura and I share a passion for reading. We want to make sure every child learns to read by the third grade. However, we will not fund reading programs which do not work. My friend Reid Lyon is here, from the National Institute of Health. Reid is a reading expert. He understands the science of reading. He explained to me a long time ago, some curricula work and some don't. He understands what works. Again, I repeat, we're willing to spend more money. We're not going to spend money on curriculum that will not teach our children how to read.

But we are willing to spend it, because we understand that if you can't read, the science programs don't matter, it's hard to excel in math. Reading is the gateway to knowledge. Reading is the true civil right of the 21st century, as far as I'm concerned.

And we're proposing more money for Title I students as well. We're going to ask for the '04 budget a billion-dollar increase, up to $12.3 billion for Title I students, because one of the goals in this Nation has got to be to close the achievement gap.

That starts with having high expectations. You see, I want to repeat what I said earlier: I believe that too many of the adults figure certain children cannot learn. And they just say, "Heck, let's just move them through." So we not only need to make sure the money is there, but we've got to make sure the attitude changes. And the accountability systems within the No Child Left Behind Act insist that we have an attitude change in America. That's what this says.

One year ago, we met the first challenge of education reform. We passed the law. And now we've got another challenge, and that's the implementation of this law. Today we honor five States; there are 45 more to go. Some of the education leaders of those States are here. We look forward to seeing your plans. We look forward to seeing the spirit of the No Child Left Behind law in your plans. We look forward to strong accountability systems. We look forward to seeing the implementation of curricula that works. We look forward to the hiring of principals who know how to lead a school. We look forward to rewarding teachers who are not only lending their hearts but their talents, to make sure no child gets left behind. We look forward to a culture in America that understands every child can learn. And we look forward to the day that no child in this country is ever left behind.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:46 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Keith Owen, principal, Beulah Heights Elementary School in Pueblo, CO; and G. Reid Lyon, chief, Child Development and Behavior Branch, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health. He also referred to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Public Law No. 91–230); and Title I of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law No. 103–382), which amended Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Public Law No. 89–10).

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders

January 8, 2003

The President. Thank you all for coming today. I'm going to have a statement, and then we'll ask you to leave so we can get down to our business.

I want to welcome Members of the Senate and the House, both Republicans and Democrats, for this, the first of many meetings we'll have this year to figure out how we can work together and get some things done on behalf of the American people.

Yesterday and today the Senate and the House acted on behalf of the unemployed workers of America. I have the extension of unemployment benefits in front of me. I want to congratulate Senators Frist and Daschle and Speaker Hastert and Leader Pelosi for the good work on behalf of the American workers.

And right now it is my honor to sign this piece of legislation, which should bring some comfort to those of our fellow citizens who need extra help during the time in which they try to find a job. So congratulations for a good job, and it's my honor to sign the bill.

[*At this point, the President signed the bill.*]

The President. I signed this, and I intend to sign a lot of other bills this year. And I know the only reason I'll be able to do so is because we're going to work together. We owe that to the American people. It's the spirit that now prevails in this room. And I look forward to working with Members of both parties to get a lot done to make America a safer place, a stronger place, and a better place.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:08 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. S. 23, approved January 8, was assigned Public Law No.

108–1. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks at the National Capital Flag Company in Alexandria, Virginia

January 9, 2003

Thanks for having me, Al. First, we just had a really good discussion about how to make sure America is as promising as possible, how do we grow our economy, what's the role of Government, who do we trust when it comes to the people's money. And I want to thank Al for assembling the group and providing this opportunity for me to come and speak to you all and to the country about America.

First, the great thing about America, it's represented by guys like Al. He owns his own business. It's his. He's realizing his dream. The true strength of America is the entrepreneurial spirit of America, is the fact that Al, who had gone from firefighter to CEO—it can happen—and not only CEO, but CEO of a thriving business. And I know Al's wife and daughter are really proud of him for taking a risk.

But by taking risk, he is not only realizing a dream, he's also helping other people find work. The backbone of the U.S. economy is the small business. And to be able to talk about economic vitality and growth in a small business is a joy for me.

So thanks for having me. Thanks for what you do. Thanks for making all those flags that fly on the limousines. [*Laughter*] I'm proud to be traveling behind your flag. [*Laughter*]

I want to thank Hector Barreto, who is the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, for being with us.

I'm proud that our Senator from the State of Virginia is with us, George Allen. I'm honored George is here. He's a good fellow. If you've got any complaints about things, just take them to George. [*Laughter*] But I'm proud to call him friend.

I want to thank the vice mayor of Alexandria who's here. Where are you? Thank you, sir. Mr. Mayor, thanks for coming. I'm honored you're here. My little brother is a resident of Alexandria, so go light on his property taxes. [*Laughter*] I'm going to try to go light on his income taxes. [*Laughter*]

I appreciate so very much the folks that joined us to talk about their own individual circumstances and the policies that I've articulated. I am oftentimes asked, "How is the economy doing?" And it's doing pretty darn well, given the fact that we've been through a recession, which is three quarters of negative growth. We've been through an attack on America, which many folks in this neighborhood, obviously, witnessed the consequences of firsthand. That caused our economy to slow down. It caused people not to get on airplanes and go to hotels. It was a shock to our economy. And then we had some of our citizens not tell the truth, that they thought that they could fudge the numbers to get ahead. And that created a lack of confidence. And we've dealt with all three of these things, and our economy is growing.

In spite of the fact that we had three major effects, the economy is showing positive growth. Matter of fact, we're the strongest, most resilient economy in the entire world, which should say something. So we're pretty darn good, but we're not good enough. And that's what I'm concerned about.

I say we're not good enough because there are some in the corporate world that don't have the confidence to expand like they should be expanding, and too many of our citizens are looking for work. Too many people who want to work can't find a job, and that concerns me. And so one of my jobs is to deal with problems. If you see a problem, instead of hoping it goes away, just be forthright and lay out a plan to deal with it. And that's what I'm doing. That's what I did in Chicago, and that's what I 'm going to do again today, to talk about why I've—why I said what I think is important.

First, in order to deal with the recession, in June of 2001, I signed a law that allowed people to keep more of their own money. In other words, it was tax relief for all citizens. We've reduced the tax rates for everybody who pays taxes. And it was phased in over a period of years for the sake of economic vitality. I mean, it was good enough in January of '01, the theory that if you let people have more of their own money, it

would help the economy. That same theory still holds.

See, if Congress thought it was good enough in '01 to let people keep more money, they ought to think about it's good enough in '03 to let people keep more of their own money. And the phase-in is in '04 and '06. And all we're asking Congress to do is take the law they've already passed and accelerate the tax relief to today. As a matter of fact, when they pass that, I'll then get the Treasury to make it retroactive. And if we make it retroactive, the Treasury will then account for that retroactivity, so that you get immediate money into the economy. You'll notice the effects of the tax relief quickly.

All people who pay taxes should get tax relief. The tax relief is already in place. If tax relief is good enough 3 years from now for the American people, given the circumstances today, it's good enough today. And Congress needs to hear that. The plan is fair.

And the other thing we're going to do is accelerate aspects. Not only the tax rate reductions but the marriage penalty ought to be accelerated. The benefits of the marriage—of reducing the marriage penalty ought to be accelerated. It's a little odd that we have a marriage penalty to begin with. [*Laughter*] It seems like we ought to not penalize marriage; we ought to encourage marriage.

We ought to speed up the increase in the child credit. If you're a mom or a dad, you ought to get an increase in your child credit. And we ought to accelerate the reduction of the lowest tax rate from 15 percent to 10 percent. And these are all items that allow me to tell you that 92 million Americans benefit from this.

You hear a lot of talk in Washington, of course, about this benefits so-and-so, or this benefits this, the kind of the class warfare of politics. Let me just give you the facts that, under this plan, a family of four with an income of $40,000 will receive a 96-percent reduction in Federal income taxes.

Now, that may not mean a lot of money to some of the big shots. It means a lot of money for the family of four making $40,000. The income taxes would drop from $1,178 a year to $45 a year. That's real significant money for this family. It's money that family would have to save, invest, to help with the credit-card squeeze. It's money that the family would have to make decisions on their behalf.

Somebody asked me earlier, "Why can't Congress see the wisdom of this?" And one of the answers is, is that some in Congress would rather spend the money themselves as opposed to trusting you to spend your own money, at least that's how I view the debate.

This tax relief is real, and it's significant. I was with Wayne and Candi—I was with Wayne. They're going to save $2,500 a year. The folks at the so-called roundtable—it happened to be square, by the way. [*Laughter*] Wayne was with us. We were talking about his family. Joe and Kristen, two hard-working Americans that have got two children, they'll have a yearly savings of $900, an 18-percent reduction in what they pay to the Federal Government.

This is a fair plan. It is an important plan. And it's a plan that will help people find work, because it will help keep this economy growing.

Secondly, one of the things in the plan is how do we affect the small-business owner. If 70 percent of the new jobs in America are created by small business, then we ought to be figuring out how to create incentives for small business to grow. That makes sense.

The first thing is that most small businesses pay—file their small-business income on their personal income tax returns. Most are small businesses or limited partnerships—most small businesses are limited partnerships or sole proprietorships. Al is not. He's a C corp, so he pays at the corporate level, but many small businesses are.

So when you reduce the rates on everybody who pays taxes, you're reducing the taxes on small-business owners, which gives that small-business owner more money to invest in the growth of the business, which means it's more likely he or she will be able to hire somebody additionally. When you reduce the income tax rates on Americans, you're affecting small business, and that's important for people to know. It's a fact, and it's a real fact.

As well, I've asked the Congress to raise the deduction from $25,000 to $75,000—in

other words, the amount that a business can deduct from the investment of equipment. And this makes sense for a company like the National Flag Company. See, it is a capital-intensive business. It requires sophisticated machinery to run this business, as the folks who work here know. It's pretty darn sophisticated, isn't it? [*Laughter*]

If this plan were to go through, the company, Al tells me, since he is the company, or part of the company, or the decisionmaker in the company, says that he would buy two more machines, which would create more job opportunities for people. In other words, this is a plan that says that if you are willing to take risk and invest more, that there's a benefit for doing so. It's an incentive for small business to increase.

It's aimed at small business; it makes sense for small business. And if Al makes the decision to buy more equipment and to hire more people, imagine all the different Als around the country that are making the same decision. It's the cumulative effect of his decision as well as millions of others that will enable me to predict that more jobs will be created, more opportunities for growth. The people making the machines will have more opportunity. And it will have a positive effect throughout our entire economy.

The third aspect of this plan is on dividends. A dividend is money that a company gives back to investors out of their profits. Right now this country taxes dividends twice—or income twice, in the sense. In other words, you tax the profit at the corporate level, and that's good. Profits should be taxed. And when the profit is distributed to an investor, it gets taxed. I don't think it's fair to tax that dollar twice. And I think the Congress ought to abolish the double taxation on dividends. That's a fair principle.

And it will have other effects as well. Fifty percent or half of all the dividend income—50 percent of all the dividend income in America goes to our seniors. There's a way that seniors have been—many seniors have invested and use the dividend income as part of their retirement. If you get rid of the double taxation of dividends, you help seniors in their retirement, and that makes sense. That's good public policy, it seems like to me.

The average tax savings for taxpayers 65 and older who receive dividends will be $936 per year, per tax return. That's—that will help. That will help people. Abolishing the double taxation will increase the return on responsible investing, which will draw more money into the markets, which will make it easier for people to have capital to build plant and equipment, which means more people will find work.

I mean, this is a plan to encourage growth, focusing on jobs. And the Council of Economic Advisers has predicted that these proposals will create 2.1 million new jobs over the next 3 years. That's good for the American people. It's good for our economy.

See, I want people who need to put bread—food on the table to be able to do so, more people working. They're looking for work and can't find work. That's—that's sad.

I signed a bill yesterday, by the way, to extend unemployment benefits. I want to thank both Republicans and Democrats, Senator Allen and others, for getting that done. See, they showed yesterday that when they get their mind to something and forget politics and focus on the good of the American people, we can get some things done. And I signed the bill yesterday. They hadn't been in town but 2 days and got the bill to my desk, and that's good.

They need to be thinking the same way about this jobs package. They need to understand that the proposal I made will put $59 billion out the door in 2003 alone, which is short-term stimulus. They need to understand that we've got to be thinking long-term for the United States of America, that the role of Government is not to create wealth but to create an environment in which the small business can grow to be a big business, in which people are comfortable about investing, in which people have the ultimate confidence in our system.

We got a lot of big problems ahead of us here in America. We're fighting a war, and the war goes on. I knew that the farther we got away from September the 11th, the more likely it would be that I would continue to have to convince people that we live in a dangerous world, and we do.

And this year, the year '03, we're going to do like we did last year; we're just going

to keep hunting them down, one at a time. It doesn't matter where they try to hide. We'll find them and bring them to justice. We'll be dealing with weapons of mass destruction in order to make the world more peaceful.

And here at home, we've got some obstacles to overcome as well. And one of those obstacles is to make sure people can find work, make sure this economy is strong and vibrant and hopeful, that the future is optimistic for every single citizen.

But there's no doubt in my mind we'll overcome these obstacles. There's no doubt in my mind that the world is going to be a more peaceful place, because of the United States of America. There's no doubt in my mind that we'll prevail in the war on terror, no matter how long it takes. And there's no doubt in my mind, when Congress does the right thing, that more of our Americans will have a more hopeful future, because they'll be able to find work.

Thank you, Al, for giving me a chance to come by. May God bless you and your families, and may God continue to bless the greatest nation on the face of the Earth, the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:05 a.m. in the company's sewing room. In his remarks, he referred to Albert Ulmer, Jr., president, National Capital Flag Company, his wife Joanne, and their daughter, Caitlin; Vice Mayor William Cleveland of Alexandria; and Wayne and Candi Page, and Joseph and Kristen Pappano, who participated in a roundtable discussion with the President prior to his remarks. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Message to the Senate Transmitting an Agreement Amending the Canada-United States Treaty on Pacific Coast Albacore Tuna Vessels and Port Privileges

January 9, 2003

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Agreement Amending the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada on Pacific Coast Albacore Tuna Vessels and Port Privileges done at Washington May 26, 1981 (the "Treaty"), effected by an exchange of diplomatic notes at Washington on July 17, 2002, and August 13, 2002 (the "Agreement"). I am also enclosing, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Secretary of State on the Agreement and a related agreement, effected by an exchange of notes at Washington on August 21, 2002, and September 10, 2002, amending the Annexes to the Treaty; this related agreement was concluded pursuant to Article VII of the Treaty.

The Treaty currently permits unlimited fishing for albacore tuna by vessels of each Party in waters under the jurisdiction of the other Party. The Agreement amends the Treaty to allow for a limitation on such fishing necessitated by changing circumstances.

The U.S. fishing and processing industries strongly support the amendment to the Treaty. The amendment not only allows the Parties to redress the imbalance of benefits received by U.S. fishers that has developed in the operation of the Treaty, but also preserves U.S. interests under the Treaty, including the interest of U.S. fishers to fish in Canadian waters at times when the albacore stock moves northward, the interest of U.S. processors to continue to receive Canadian catches for processing, and the U.S. interest in being able to conserve and manage the stock.

The recommended legislation necessary to implement the Agreement will be submitted separately to the Congress.

I recommend that the Senate give favorable consideration to this Agreement and give its advice and consent to ratification at an early date.

George W. Bush

The White House,

January 9, 2003.

Statement on the Death of Steve Young

January 10, 2003

Laura and I are saddened by the news of the passing of Steve Young, national president of the Fraternal Order of Police. Steve made important contributions to our country as a police officer, president of the Fraternal Order of Police, and as a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council. Steve was a true hero for his dedication to ensuring the safety of our communities. He was a great friend and an honorable and loyal man.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

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.

January 4

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

January 5

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

January 6

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings.

The President declared a major disaster in Arkansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe ice storm on December 3–4, 2002.

The President declared a major disaster in the Federated States of Micronesia and ordered Federal aid to supplement national and State recovery efforts in the area struck by Typhoon Pongsona on December 5–7, 2002.

January 7

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Chicago, IL. In the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Steven I. Cooper as Chief Information Officer at the Department of Homeland Security.

January 8

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

In the afternoon, the President met with members of the Commission on Excellence in Special Education.

The White House announced that the President will host President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland for lunch on January 14 to discuss key bilateral issues including the situation in Iraq and cooperation against terrorism.

The President declared a major disaster in South Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe ice storm on December 4–6, 2002.

January 9

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings. He then traveled to Alexandria, VA, where he participated in a roundtable discussion on economic issues at the National Capital Flag Company. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney.

The President announced the appointment of Otto J. Reich as Special Envoy for Western Hemisphere Initiatives.

The President announced his intention to nominate Roger Francisco Noriega to be Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Paul McHale to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christopher Ryan Henry to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

The President announced his intention to nominate John W. Nicholson to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Paul Sarbanes, Michael B. Enzi, and James Shinn to be U.S. Representatives to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ralph Martinez and Cynthia Costa to be Alternate U.S. Representatives to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Claudia Puig to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The President announced his intention to appoint J.C. Watts, Jr., as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy.

The President announced his intention to appoint Michael Rogers as a member of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

The President announced his intention to appoint John L. Marion as a member of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alfred Plamann to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank (low income cooperative representative).

January 10

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Jiang Zemin of China concerning the situation in North Korea. He then had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with leaders of the free Iraqi community.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael D. Brown to be Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles E. McQueary to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology at the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced his intention to designate Robert Jeffrey Glovitz as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation.

The President announced his intention to designate Lynda Hare Scribante as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation.

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 January 7

Thomas J. Ridge,
of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of Homeland Security (new position).

Gordon England,
of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security (new position).

Terrence W. Boyle,
of North Carolina, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, vice J. Dickson Phillips, Jr., retired.

Jay S. Bybee,
of Nevada, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, vice Procter R. Hug, Jr., retired.

Deborah L. Cook,
of Ohio, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Alan E. Norris, retired.

Miguel A. Estrada,
of Virginia, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, vice Patricia M. Wald, retired.

Richard A. Griffin,
of Michigan, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Damon J. Keith, retired.

Carolyn B. Kuhl,
of California, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, vice James R. Browning, retired.

David W. McKeague,
of Michigan, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Richard F. Suhrheinrich, retired.

Susan Bieke Neilson,
of Michigan, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice Cornelia G. Kennedy, retired.

Priscilla Richman Owen,
of Texas, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, vice William L. Garwood, retired.

Charles W. Pickering, Sr.,
of Mississippi, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, vice Henry A. Politz, retired.

John G. Roberts, Jr.,
of Maryland, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, vice James L. Buckley, retired.

Henry W. Saad,
of Michigan, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice James L. Ryan, retired.

Jeffrey S. Sutton,
of Ohio, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, vice David A. Nelson, retired.

Timothy M. Tymkovich,
of Colorado, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, vice John C. Porfilio, retired.

John R. Adams,
of Ohio, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, vice George Washington White, retired.

J. Daniel Breen,
of Tennessee, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, vice Julia Smith Gibbons, elevated.

Cormac J. Carney,
of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, vice Carlos R. Moreno, resigned.

James C. Dever, III,
of North Carolina, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, vice W. Earl Britt, retired.

Ralph R. Erickson,
of North Dakota, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of North Dakota, vice Rodney S. Webb, retired.

Sandra J. Feuerstein,
of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, vice Thomas C. Platt, Jr., retired.

Gregory L. Frost,
of Ohio, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, vice George C. Smith, retired.

S. Maurice Hicks, Jr.,
of Louisiana, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, vice Donald E. Walter, retired.

Richard J. Holwell,
of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York, vice Barrington D. Parker, Jr., elevated.

Robert A. Junell,
of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Texas, vice Hipolito Frank Garcia, deceased.

Thomas L. Ludington,
of Michigan, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, vice Paul V. Gadola, retired.

S. James Otero,
of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, vice Richard A. Paez, elevated.

William D. Quarles, Jr.,
of Maryland, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Maryland, vice William M. Nickerson, retired.

Frederick W. Rohlfing III,
of Hawaii, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Hawaii, vice Alan C. Kay, retired.

Thomas A. Varlan,
of Tennessee, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, vice Robert Leon Jordan, retired.

William H. Steele,
of Alabama, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, vice Richard W. Vollmer, Jr., retired.

Timothy C. Stanceu,
of Virginia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of International Trade, vice Richard W. Goldberg, retired.

Susan G. Braden,
of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years, vice Roger B. Andewelt, deceased.

Marian Blank Horn,
of Maryland, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years (reappointment).

Charles F. Lettow,
of Virginia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years, vice John Paul Wiese, term expired.

Mary Ellen Coster Williams,
of Maryland, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years, vice Sarah L. Wilson.

Victor J. Wolski,
of Virginia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years, vice Bohdan A. Futey, term expired.

Glen L. Bower,
of Illinois, to be a Judge of the U.S. Tax Court for a term of 15 years after he takes office, vice Carolyn Miller Parr, term expired.

Bruce E. Kasold,
of Virginia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term prescribed by law, vice a new position created by Public Law 107–103, approved December 27, 2001.

Alan G. Lance, Sr.,
of Idaho, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term prescribed by law, vice Frank Quill Nebeker, resigned.

Fern Flanagan Saddler,
of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years, vice Patricia A. Wynn, retired.

Submitted January 9

Cynthia Costa,
of South Carolina, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Terrence A. Duffy,
of Illinois, to be a member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring October 11, 2003, vice Scott B. Lukins, term expired.

Terrence A. Duffy,
of Illinois, to be a member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring October 11, 2007 (reappointment).

Michael B. Enzi,
of Wyoming, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Dana Gioia,
of California, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts for a term of 4 years, vice Michael Hammond.

Thomas Waters Grant,
of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2005, vice Charles L. Marinaccio, term expired.

Christopher Ryan Henry,
of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, vice Stephen A. Cambone, resigned.

Noe Hinojosa, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2003, vice Marianne C. Spraggins, term expired.

Noe Hinojosa, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2006 (reappointment).

Ralph Martinez,
of Florida, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Paul McHale,
of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense (new position).

John W. Nicholson,
of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs, vice Robin L. Higgins, resigned.

Alfred Plamann,
of California, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of 3 years, vice Harry J. Bowie, term expired.

Claudia Puig,
of Florida, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for the remainder of the term expiring January 31, 2006, vice Kenneth Y. Tomlinson.

Mark V. Rosenker,
of Maryland, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2005, vice Marion Blakey, resigned.

Paul Sarbanes,
of Maryland, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

James Shinn,
of New Jersey, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Fifty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Florentino Subia,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2004, vice Edna Fairbanks-Williams, term expired.

William Robert Timken, Jr.,
of Ohio, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2003, vice James Clifford Hudson, term expired.

William Robert Timken, Jr.,
of Ohio, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2006 (reappointment).

Claude A. Allen,
Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2003, vice John F. Hicks, Sr., term expired.

Barry C. Barish,
of California, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Eamon M. Kelly, term expired.

Steven C. Beering,
of Indiana, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for the remainder of the term expiring May 10, 2004, vice Chang-Lin Tien, resigned.

Lillian R. BeVier,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2004, vice Hulett Hall Askew, term expired.

Robert Boldrey,
of Michigan, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term expiring May 26, 2007, vice Judith M. Espinosa, term expired.

Malcolm B. Bowekaty,
of New Mexico, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2006, vice Bill Anoatubby, term expired.

Ray M. Bowen,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Vera C. Rubin, term expired.

Jewel Spears Brooker,
of Florida, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, term expired.

Dale Cabaniss,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of 5 years expiring July 29, 2007 (reappointment).

Douglas Carnine,
of Oregon, to be a member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board for a term of 3 years (new position).

Albert Casey,
of Texas, to be a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2009, vice Tirso del Junco, term expired.

Celeste Colgan,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Jon N. Moline, term expired.

Harlon Eugene Costner,
of North Carolina, to be U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina, for the term of 4 years, vice Becky Jane Wallace.

Harold Damelin,
of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration, vice Phyllis K. Fong.

Robert J. Dieter,
of Colorado, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2005, vice F. William McCalpin, term expired.

Thomas C. Dorr,
of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, vice Jill L. Long, resigned.

Thomas C. Dorr,
of Iowa, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Jill L. Long, resigned.

Naomi Churchill Earp,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2005, vice Reginald Earl Jones, term expired.

Peter Eide,
of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority Board for a term of 5 years, vice Joseph Swerdzewski, resigned.

Blanca E. Enriquez,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board for a term of 3 years (new position).

Delores M. Etter,
of Maryland, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice John A. Armstrong, term expired.

Dario Fernandez-Morera,
of Illinois, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Susan E. Trees, term expired.

Kenneth M. Ford,
of Florida, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice M.R.C. Greenwood, term expired.

Jose A. Fourquet,
of New Jersey, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2004, vice Mark L. Schneider, term expired.

Elizabeth Fox-Genovese,
of Georgia, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Lorraine Weiss Frank, term expired.

Feliciano Foyo,
of Florida, to be a member of the Advisory Board for Cuba Broadcasting for a term expiring August 12, 2004, vice Jorge L. Mas.

Adolfo A. Franco,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2008, vice Jeffrey Davidow, resigned.

Emil H. Frankel,
of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation, vice Eugene A. Conti, Jr., resigned.

Thomas A. Fuentes,
of California, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2005, vice Thomas F. Smegal, Jr., term expired.

Humberto S. Garcia,
of Puerto Rico, to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of 4 years, vice Daniel F. Lopez Romo, resigned.

William Preston Graves,
of Kansas, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for the remainder of the term expiring December 10, 2005, vice Mel Carnahan.

Grant S. Green, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources (new position).

Herbert Guenther,
of Arizona, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term of 2 years (new position).

Cheryl Feldman Halpern,
of New Jersey, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2008, vice Heidi H. Schulman, term expired.

Mark Moki Hanohano,
of Hawaii, to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Hawaii for the term of 4 years, vice Howard Hikaru Tagomori.

Daniel E. Hastings,
of Massachusetts, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Bob H. Suzuki, term expired.

Richard F. Healing,
of Virginia, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2006, vice George W. Black, Jr., term expired.

David Hertz,
of Indiana, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2006, vice Henry Glassie.

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.

Phyllis C. Hunter,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board for a term of 2 years (new position).

Thomas Dyson Hurlburt, Jr.,
of Florida, to be U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of Florida for the term of 4 years, vice Don R. Moreland, term expired.

Jeremy H. G. Ibrahim,
of Pennsylvania, to be a member of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for the term expiring September 30, 2005, vice Richard Thomas White, term expired.

Rickey Dale James,
of Missouri, to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission for a term of 9 years (reappointment).

Walter H. Kansteiner,
Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs), to be a member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2003, vice George Edward Moose, term expired.

Joseph Timothy Kelliher,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the term expiring June 30, 2007, vice Linda Key Breathitt, term expired.

Charlotte A. Lane,
of West Virginia, to be a member of the U.S. International Trade Commission for a term expiring December 16, 2009, vice Dennis M. Devaney.

Terry L. Maple,
of Georgia, to be a member of the National Museum Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2005, vice Townsend Wolfe, term expired.

Susanne T. Marshall,
of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, vice Beth Susan Slavet.

R. Bruce Matthews,
of New Mexico, to be a member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2005, vice Joseph DiNunno, resigned.

Patrick Lloyd McCrory,
of North Carolina, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2005, vice Richard C. Hackett, term expired.

Michael McKay,
of Washington, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2004, vice Nancy Hardin Rogers, term expired.

Stephen McKnight,
of Florida, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2006, vice Isabel Carter Stewart.

Sidney McPhee,
of Tennessee, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Margaret P. Duckett, term expired.

Neil McPhie,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for the term of 7 years expiring March 1, 2009, vice Beth Susan Slavet, term expired.

James C. Miller, III,
of Virginia, to be a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service for the term expiring December 8, 2010, vice Einar V. Dyhrkopp, term expired.

Cranston J. Mitchell,
of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the U.S. Parole Commission for a term of 6 years, vice Timothy Earl Jones, Sr.

Richard Narcia,
of Arizona, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term expiring August 25, 2006, vice Norma Gilbert Udall, term expired.

Roger Francisco Noriega,
of Kansas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2006, vice Harriett C. Babbitt, term expired.

Lawrence Okamura,
of Missouri, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Doris B. Holleb, term expired.

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.

Christina Pharo,
of Florida, to be U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida for the term of 4 years, vice James A. Tassone.

Rear Admiral Nicholas Augustus Prahl,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission, under the provisions of Section 2 of an Act of Congress, approved 28 June 1879 (21 Stat. 37)(22 U.S.C. 642).

Elizabeth J. Pruet,
of Arkansas, to be a member of the National Museum Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2004, vice David A. Ucko, term expired.

W. Scott Railton,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2007, vice Gary L. Visscher, term expired.

Douglas D. Randall,
of Missouri, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Richard A. Tapia, term expired.

Edward F. Reilly,
of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the U.S. Parole Commission for a term of 6 years (reappointment).

Gerald Reynolds,
of Missouri, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, vice Norma V. Cantu, resigned.

Edwin Joseph Rigaud,
of Ohio, to be a member of the National Museum Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2007, vice Arthur Rosenblatt, term expired.

David B. Rivkin, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for the term expiring September 30, 2004, vice Laramie Faith McNamara.

Harry Robinson, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Museum Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2003, vice Alberta Sebolt George, term expired.

William A. Schambra,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring September 14, 2006, vice Carol W. Kinsley, term expired.

Dennis L. Schornack,
of Michigan, to be Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, vice Thomas L. Baldini.

Jeffrey Shane,
of the District of Columbia, to be Associate Deputy Secretary of Transportation, vice Stephen D. Van Beek, resigned.

Linda M. Springer,
of Pennsylvania, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, vice Mark W. Everson.

Frank B. Strickland,
of Georgia, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2004, vice John N. Erlenborn, term expired.

Stanley C. Suboleski,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of 6 years expiring August 30, 2006, vice Marc Lincoln Marks, term expired.

Marguerite Sullivan,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Susan Ford Wiltshire, term expired.

Stephan Thernstrom,
of Massachusetts, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Arthur I. Blaustein, term expired.

Michael E. Toner,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2007, vice Darryl R. Wold, term expired.

Bradley Udall,
of Colorado, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2006, vice Matt James, term expired.

Jo Anne Vasquez,
of Arizona, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008, vice Mary K. Gaillard, term expired.

Juanita Alicia Vasquez-Gardner,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2003, vice Steven L. Zinter, 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.

Ellen L. Weintraub,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2007, vice Karl J. Sandstrom, term expired, to which position she was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

Donna N. Williams,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring October 6, 2006, vice Robert B. Rogers, term expired.

Dennis Arthur Williamson,
of Florida, to be U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of Florida for the term of 4 years, vice James W. Lockley, term expired.

Richard Zenos Winget,
of Nevada, to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Nevada, for the term of 4 years, vice Jose Gerardo Troncoso.

Submitted January 10

Clark Kent Ervin,
of Texas, to be Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security (new position).

Asa Hutchinson,
of Arkansas, to be Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security (new position).

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 January 4

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that on December 31, 2002, the President approved the designation of 38 sub-Saharan African countries as eligible for tariff preferences under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

Released January 6

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Arkansas

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia

Fact sheet: President Bush Takes Action To Help Unemployed Americans Get Back to Work Quickly

Released January 7

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Fact sheet: President Bush Taking Action To Strengthen America's Economy

Released January 8

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to South Carolina

Fact sheet: President Bush Celebrates One-Year Anniversary of No Child Left Behind Act

Released January 9

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on the appointment of the Special Envoy for Western Hemisphere Initiatives

Released January 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.J. Res. 1

Acts Approved by the President

Approved January 8

S. 23 / Public Law 108–1
To provide for a 5-month extension of the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002 and for a transition period for individuals receiving compensation when the program under such Act ends

Approved January 10

H.J. Res. 1 / Public Law 108–2
Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes